P E N N Y - W I S E

The Official Publication of the Early American Coppers Club

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What a pile of material is contained in this mailing envelope! Not only do you have another big and great issue of P-W, but you also have Chuck Funk's Index to Volume XVIII and you have the catalogue for the copper sale to be held in Chicago at the EAC Annual Convention in April. You'll need a month of Sundays just to wade through all the various pages!

As usual, PENNY-WISE is wonderful and even better than all the preceding issues going back to 1967! There are articles on Colonials, half cents, and large cents - sorry that we didn't receive any articles on Hard Times tokens, but we still have hopes that that will change one of these days. There are also reports of numerous regional meetings and of coin shows visited. The program for the annual convention is provided. And John Wright has offered a lot of interesting and valuable data for your information. Last of all, SWAPS & SALES lists a number of bargains which are available at all price levels.

You'll find that the sale catalogue for the annual convention is a real masterpiece with lots of desirable coins being made available. Three of our members have consigned their collection to the sale, so you'll have a lot of choice varieties to choose from this year. The sale alone should be enough to attract you to Chicago for the convention.

And the Editor and Staff of P-W thank Chuck Funk for another excellent job in preparing the Index to Volume XVIII. Chuck is one of those disposing of his collection, so we don't know whether or not he'll be interested in doing next year's Index for P-W, but we surely hope that he will do so - he's been in sole charge of the Index since EAC was founded. Thanks, Chuck - may the copper itch still continue to plague you throughout 1985! We love ya!

Now, don't forget - lots of promises have been received - but we need your material for the May issue of P-W. So tell us about the time you had in Chicago, what cherrypicking you latched on to, anything that interests you and should interest your fellow members, etc. Please help me to keep my postal carrier busy throughout March and April. I love to receive mail!!!

So sit back and relax, put your feet up, and read on ..... and on ..... and on. Best to ya all, ya hear?

Warren A. Lapp, M.D.
Editor and Publisher
and
The Staff of PENNY-WISE

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MACHIN'S MILLS HALFPENCE - AN OVERVIEW

GARY A. TRUDGEN

Two centuries ago monetary conditions in our new nation were very confused. Most of the coins in circulation were foreign coins valued at different rates among the states. A committee report to the New York Assembly in 1787 provides an insight into these conditions with respect to copper coins within the state. They reported that the principle copper coins circulating in the state at that time were:
(1) A few genuine British halfpence of George II.
(2) A number of Irish halfpence.
(3) A very great number of imitation British halfpence generally called Birmingham coppers because they were being imported from Birmingham, England.
(4) A considerable number of coppers made in the State of New Jersey.
Machin's Mills took advantage of the confused money conditions by privately minting their version of some of the coppers that were circulating. They did this after they failed to obtain a grant to coin copper for the State of New York. One of their major products was the British halfpence.

Today, Birmingham imitation British halfpence are often confused with Machin's Mills imitation British halfpence. This is understandable because they both have the same legends, central devices, and lightweight planchets with crude die work. It is important to distingush between the two because the Birmingham halfpence were made in large volumes in England and then imported to our country, whereas the Machin's Mills halfpence are a state coinage product of early America and are relatively scarce. The dies for the Machin's Mills halfpence series were engraved by James F. Atlee, one of the most prolific die sinkers during the state coinage era. Hopefully the following information concerning the Machin's Mills halfpence series will help to familiarize you with the series.

The attribution scheme used by Robert A. Vlack, when he published photo-plates on imitation British halfpence made in early America, seems well suited for the series because of the wide range of dates. The obverse dies are labeled in numeric sequence starting with the die that was combined with the earliest dated reverse and proceeding to the latest dated reverse. The reverse dies are labeled with the last two digits of the date followed by a letter which distingushes between different dies of the same date. For example, die variety 3-71B combines the third obverse die in the series

with a 1771 dated reverse. The letter "B" states that it is the second reverse die of that date.

The central device on the obverse die is a mailed bust of the King of England. The Latin legend on the obverse reads "GEORGIVS III REX" which translates to King George III. There is one exception which reads "GEORGIVS II REX". King George II reigned in England during the years 1727 to 1760, while King George III reigned from 1760 to 1820. The reverse die features a central device of Britannia, which is a female personification of Great Britain, sitting on a globe with a sprig in her right hand and a staff in the other hand. A shield with the British Union is also at her side. The reverse legend reads "BRITANNIA" with the date placed in the exergue (which is below the figure of Britannia).

It is reasonably certain that Machin's Mills minted most of their British halfpence during the years 1787 and 1788. Some of the mules, or irrelevant die combinations, were probably made during the copper price collapse in 1789. They chose to antedate some of the reverse dies. This may have been done to conform with the dates used on genuine British halfpence, however, three of the early dates contradict this reasoning. Machin's Mills halfpence use ten different dates with 34 die varieties presently known. A photo example of a die variety from each date, except 1785, follows. Also, with each date group, relevant comments are given including Bob Vlack's rarity estimates for each die variety. In most cases, the rarity estimates are in parentheses following the die variety.

1747

VLACK 1-47A

This is the only die variety of this date and it is the only obverse of King George II. Its rarity is estimated as R5.

1771

VLACK 3-71B

There are three die varieties of this date. They are as follows along with their respective rarity estimates: 2-71A(R4), 3-71B(R5), and 4-71C(R8). Obverse 2 is made from the same central device punch as obverse's 9, 15, 22 and the large central punch-interlocked group of dies in the Vermont series of state coppers.

1772

VLACK 5-72A

There are four die varieties of this date. They are as follows along with their respective rarity estimates: 5-72A(R6), 6-72A(R7), 7-72B(R7), and 24-72C(R7). The last listed variety is a recent addition to the series. The die of obverse 24 had been lapped or ground down, removing most of the legend, with the possible intent of repunching the legend. However, when it was used to strike this variety the legend had not yet been repunched.

1774

VLACK 8-74A

There are three die varieties of this date all using the same reverse die. They are: 3-74A(R4), 7-74A(R7), and 8-74A(R5). The legend of obverse 7 has the letter "U" substituted for the letter "V" in "GEORGIVS".

1775

VLACK 4-75A

This is the only die variety of this date. Its rarity is estimated as R2.

1776

VLACK 6-76A

There are two die varieties of this date. They are: 6-76A(R2), and 9-76B(R7). Variety 6-76A is very popular among collectors because of the date. "GEORGIVS" in the legend of obverse 9 is spelled "CEORCIVS" because the "C's" were not cut into "G's". Reverse 76B is made from the same central device punch that was used to make the large central punch-interlocked group of Vermont dies previously mentioned.

1778

VLACK 13-78B

There are three die varieties of this date. They are: 11-78A(R1), 12-78B(R3), and 13-78B(R3).

1785

There is only one variety of this date. It is known as VLACK 15-85NY. See page 33 of the Red Book for a photo. Its rarity is estimated as R6. This is a mule which combines a rejected obverse die with an Immune Columbia reverse die. The Immune Columbia die was obtained from Walter Mould, a New Jersey coiner.

1787

VLACK 17-87A

There are thirthteen die varieties of this date making it the largest date group. The die varieties are: 9-87NY(R8), 13-87CT(R7), 17-87A(R3), 17-87B(R3), 17-87E(R8), 18-87C(R3), 19-87C(R2), 20-87C(R8), VT-87C(R1), 21-II-87C(R8), 21-I-87D-I(R5), 21-II-87D-II(R6), and 23-87C(R8). Variety 9-87NY mules obverse 9 with a pattern die (87NY) that James Atlee engraved for Thomas Machin's petition for a New York State coinage grant. Variety 13-87CT mules obverse 13 with a Connecticut reverse die and is also known as Miller 101-G.2. Variety VT-87C is the popular mule known as Vermont Britannia (Ryder 13) where a Vermont obverse is combined with reverse 87C. Varieties 21-I-87D-I and 21-II-87D-II were struck from the same pair of dies. Variety 21-I-87D-I has a very weak periphery from excessive radial expansion of the planchet during striking. Machin's Mills did not use a collar with their dies. Evidently a group of planchets were improperly

annealed and were too soft when struck. Variety 23-87C is the most recent variety to be discovered in this series.

1788

VLACK 23-88A

There are three varieties of this date. They are: 13-88CT(R3), 22-88VT(R4), and 23-88A(R1). Variety 13-88CT once again mules obverse 13 with a Connecticut reverse die and is also known as Miller 101-D. Variety 22-88VT mules obverse 22 with a Vermont reverse die and is also known as Ryder 31 and Bressett 24-U.

As can be noted from the preceeding photos, there are two main distingushing characteristics of Machin's Mills halfpence. One is the large triangular denticles along the border or circumference of the coin. The other is a single outline in the crosses (British Union) of Britannia's shield. The crosses should have a double outline or fillets to be technically correct. On some of the earlier dated varieties, the British Union was cut too deep into the dies and usually fails to show. Only well struck and well preserved specimens from these dates show evidence of the British Union.

Finally, the next time you hold a Machin's Mills halfpence between your fingers, think of two things. First, you are holding a two century old copper made in the United States during its infancy. Second, you are in all likelihood holding a piece of an intrument that was employed to bring about the birth of our nation. It has been recorded that Machin's Mills obtained copper for their coinage by melting down old brass cannons and mortars that were probably used during the Revolutionary War. Thomas Machin was a Captain in the Second New York Regiment of Continential Artillery commanded by Colonel John Lamb during the Revolutionary War. Thus, after the war, he was familiar with where and how to obtain the cannons and mortars for the copper supply he required for his coinage venture.

Gary Trudgen who wrote the preceding article has been a frequent contributor to THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER and to PENNY-WISE. The preceding article was written especially for publication in P-W. Gary noted that the coppers shown in the photographs are approximately 1.6 times their actual diameter.

Gary also stated that James Spilman, editor or THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER, is planning to publish a complete set of photo plates on the Machin's Mills halfpence series later this year. Thus, anyone desiring a photo of each die variety in the series should keep this in mind.

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SPIRIT OF EAC

Tom Reynolds

I have been a coin dealer specializing in early copper for the past 5 years. During that time, I have sold hundreds of half cents and large cents through the mail. Many of my customers are EAC members - yet a few have not been sufficiently bitten by the 'copper bug' to take the next step and join EAC. Whether the individual is a member of EAC or not, there seems to be a common thread among copper collectors which places them several notches above the average coin collector. I have not been plagued with the problems that so many mail order dealers face, i.e. bad checks, switched coins, coins ordered on approval and not paid for or returned, etc. In fact, I have not had one incident during the 5 years that I have been in business. There seems to be a camaraderie among copper people which I call 'Spirit of EAC'. Maybe a little story will illustrate what I mean by 'Spirit of EAC'.

As part of my business, I solicit want lists. A few months ago, I acquired a very scarce variety of 1818 large cent in a grade not usually available. Knowing that a long time EAC member needed the piece, I put it in the mail to him with a price of $150. (The individual shall remain nameless, for he is not the type to seek publicity. In fact, he doesn't even know that this is being written.) Imagine my surprise when his letter arrived with a check, not for $150., but for $200. He felt that the coin was worth more than I had asked, and he showed his appreciation by including an extra $50. That is the 'Spirit of EAC'!!

In closing, I want to emphasize that this story is being told to publicly thank the individual involved and to illustrate a point. It is not intended as a suggestion that my customers should include extra money when they purchase coins from me, but it is an opportunity for me to thank the many fine customers whom I have served for the past 5 years.

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When he submitted the above article to P-W, Tom included the following note: "After reading my article for the 10th time, I'm still concerned that some individuals will consider the article to be an 'advertisement' for my business. That is not the intent at all, but rather it is a part on the back for copper collectors and for EAC members in particular."

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A RARE NEW JERSEY COPPER, TRAVELING INCOGNITO, IS UNMASKED

Harold M. Hess

During World War II, when I was a Chicago youngster just starting to collect coins, life's greatest excitement centered on two events: my father's weekly foray into the neighborhood as an Air Raid Warden, searching out forbidden gleams of light from some inadequately covered window...and my own daily foray into the family's pocket change, searching for the elusive 1909S-VDB penny. The "King of Lincolns" was then worth a few dollars, a breathtaking sum to a child whose allowance was a quarter each week.

Alas, I never found an S-VDB. The war ended, and as I journeyed into adolescence quite different interests began to compete with coin collecting. But the thrill of searching for rarities in pocket change never faded, and when I began collecting again in middle age there was still a tingle of excitement each time I sat down to study an unattributed coin.

A few months ago, an anonymous New Jersey copper crossed my path... a VG coin, decent brown planchet, date gone due to wear and/or strike ...with little to distinguish it from the other low-grade Colonials one encounters. Since the reverse was bolder, I started there. Maris' M die was soon identified. M is invariably wedded to obverse 18, a common variety, but a quick glance showed that this was no 18.

At this point, my metabolism began to rise, a feeling familiar to every EACer who begins to believe that he may have stumbled across something special. Reverse M can also be paired with obverse 19, a much scarcer combination. But...it wasn't 19, either! That meant I had exhausted all the possibilities known to Maris, a realization that was quite dazzling.

Two hours of careful study...of the Maris plate, of the magnificent New Jerseys in Garrett III, of Stack's wonderful catalogues for the Roper and Picker sales, plus their offering of the Bareford Collection ...led to an inescapable conclusion: my M reverse was coupled with the 24 obverse, a die combination unknown to Maris and absent in all these other great collections.

For a few weeks, I walked on air. The coin was sent to ANACS; what joy when it returned with confirmation of my attribution! But... what's this, in with the ANACS certificate? A little handwritten note, informing me very gently that another 24-M was known, having been discovered by William T. Anton, Jr. in 1969. My buoyancy diminished; in the space of a few seconds I visualized my paragraph in numismatic history dwindle to a mere footnote.

A little more time has passed now, plus a good many letters and phone calls, and these seem to be the facts: Bill Anton's EF-AU specimen, his 1969 discovery piece, is the finest known. Two others, in lower grades, have come to light since then; both are in private collections in New York State. Mine was the fourth to be identified, a "high R-7" on Anton's rarity scale.

Yes, just a footnote...but I wouldn't have missed it for anything! This is to thank all those who kindly assisted along the way: ANACS (say what you will about their grading, their authentication is first-rate), James Spilman of The Colonial Newsletter, Bill Anton, and the many collectors who expressed interest and offered help and advice.

The M-24 is no longer mine; it moved on to a dealer who is a prominent collector of New Jerseys. I believe it has found a good home. And for the coin, of course, this is the beginning of the story, not the end. After nearly two centuries as a numismatic Cinderella, it has been unmasked as a true Colonial Princess.

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THE STRANGE CASE OF LOT 1382

Harry J. Rescigno

I really hadn't done much in 1984 to keep up my image as Sleuth of the Year. A good case was needed. A good case was needed, indeed.

I was attending a meeting of the New Jersey Numismatic Society one Monday night when Fate began to push me closer to Lot 1382. Because I am a regular attendee at meetings, I was friendly with all the people there. My eyes circled the room, observing everything. At once, I noticed a stack of white catalogues in front of Ernest Koesch, another regular. Ernie had gotten a group of "The Garrett Collection, Part I" foreign coin sale catalogues by Numismatic Fine Arts and Bank Leu. The Society decided to auction the catalogues to members. I, the great sleuth, knew that U.S. Colonials, especially those of the French Colonies, often may be found hiding in the auction. So I purchased a catalogue.

That night, in my study, I read the catalogue. I bid on some counter-stamped large cents and lot 1382. Lot 1382 consisted of five French Colonial pieces. There were four 24 denier pieces (Sou Marques) and one 12 denier piece (demi-Sou Marque). I didn't own a demi-Sou Marque, so I just bid without paying much attention to the date.

Weeks later, while working on another case, I received my winnings in the mail. I had won the lot of French Colonial pieces, lot 1382. At once, I knew that two of the Sou Marques were high-grade nice pieces. I also knew that two pieces in copper were contemporary counterfeits, but they were nice pieces nevertheless.

Now I began to research the demi-Sou Marque. I turned to "Studies on Money in Early America" by the A.N.S. This book had the definitive work on the French Colonial pieces done by Walter Breen. I searched for the date 1746. Could it be true? Only one 1746 was listed. Next to it were the words 'one traced'. Since I had the Garrett coin in front of me, I had to assume that this was the coin! Lot 1382 had yielded a unique coin! The coin was mine! It was put in my collection! My image of 'Sleuth of the Year' was safe!!

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One cannot walk backwards from the future. ..... THE RAT FINK.

I BEG TO DIFFER

Dick Punchard

In the January issue of PENNY-WISE, we were presented with a value guide titled "An Empirical-Regression Analysis of Rarity Ranges and Premium Values For the Middle Date Newcomb varieties", written by a self-acclaimed grading expert (i.e. 63+, 63, 63-).

By carefully selecting lots from Stack's Floyd Starr sale, John J. Nicholas, Jr. has attempted to prove confidently that his rarity-premium value chart 'holds up' and gratifying so. Since he took the liberty of using my name as one of those bidders not proving his theory, I feel obliged to respond.

Using the same sale, let us compare Mr. Nicholas' estimates on a few more lots to the actual prices realized. The buyer's charge of 10 per cent will be included as printed:

Lot no.	Year and Var.	Grade	JJN's Est.	Actual Price Paid
71	1816 N-3	MS63	$6,500.	$2,640.
80	1817 N-2	AU55	750.	357.50
82	1817 N-3½	MS63	812.50	495.
83	1817 N-4	MS60	1,600.	825.
84	1817 N-5	MS60	1,600.	660.
89	1817 N-9½	MS60	500.	880.
90	1817 N-10	MS60	400.	935.
91	1817 N-11	MS63	650.	1,155.
95	1817 N-5	AU50	1,000.	577.50
97	1817 N-16	VF35	65.	220.
99	1818 N-1	MS63	650.	1,100.
108	1818 N-8	MS60	1,200.	352.
120	1819 N-9	MS65	1,500.	396.
123	1819 N-10	MS60	1,000.	660.
124	1820 N-1	AU55	250.	495.
126	1820 N-3	MS63	812.50	1,375.
134	1820 N-11	MS63	1,300.	632.50
136	1820 N-12	MS63	812.50	1,045.
140	1820 N-15	MS65	1,875.	935.
145	1822 N-1	MS65	6,000.	1,760.
147	1822 N-2	MS65	3,000.	770.
159	1822 N-12	MS63	2,600.	1,045.
166	1824 N-1	MS65	1,875.	12,650.
167	1824 N-2	MS65	1,500.	5,060.
169	1824 N-4	MS65	1,500.	6,600.
200	1827 N-9	MS63	2,600.	715.
204	1827 N-12	EF45	6,000.	1,430.

It would appear that Mr. Nicholas should have hesitated a bit longer before publishing his results based on this sale.

Auctions such as the above serve some purpose in establishing the true market value, but because of the wide range which the coins bring, they shouldn't

be considered solely. What it really comes down to is what the last two bidders are willing to pay for the lot, remembering that the under-bidder thought the coin was worth nearly as much as the successful buyer.

Subsequently, a few after the sale may even admit to over-paying, having been caught up in the spirit of bidding. Anyone who has ever participated in an important auction will attest to that dilemma.

With our upcoming EAC Convention, a survey of the bourse dealers and the results from our coin sale should provide us with additional data to establish a more useful guide.

Finally, to suggest that the 1839 N-15 is not a rare variety or that it was over-graded 35 points by the cataloguer is certainly shameful. Perhaps, since it was the last lot in the series, those interested buyers were simply tapped out of funds at that point.

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AN OPEN LETTER TO THE EAC MEMBERSHIP

Much has been printed in the numismatic journals in recent years on the subject of numerical grading. Having had no small part in both the controversy and the attempts to resolve it, I would like to add my two (large) cents worth.

As pointed out by Walter Breen in the November, 1984 issue of P-W and by others elsewhere, Dr. Sheldon's 1-70 grading scale is no longer relevant to the pricing of coins. You simply cannot buy a 60-coin for three times the price of a 20-coin.

When the ANA undertook the task of writing the definitive book on the grading of U.S. coins back in the mid-1970's, the decision to adopt a numerical system over an adjectival system was a logical one. It is easy to remember that 65 is better than 60 than to remember that "awesome" is better than "godzilla". After weighing the merits of the 1-70 scale over a 1-100 scale and others, the ANA decided to adopt the 1-70 scale as it was already being used by several dealers to merchandise silver dollars and other series.

After I was hired by the ANA to begin a grading service as part of the already existing ANA Certification Service, we (ANACS) quickly realized the limitations of the 1-70 scale. As originally copied by the ANA from PENNY WHIMSY, the only Mint State grades were 60, 65, and 70. With 70 being reserved for the virtually hypothetical perfect coin, this left only two numerical grades to describe the myriad of Uncirculated coins.

Before we began accepting coins for certification as to grade, we conducted several test runs of coins and consulted with numerous dealers and collectors. The consensus was that an additional grade was needed between 60 and 65, and between 65 and 70. After further consultation I arbitrarily picked 63 and 67, thus giving us four practical MS grades. We then began grading coins using these additional grades.

In 20-20 hindsight, I think I can say that we erred on the side of conservatism, and did not add enough Mint State grades. Also, we erred in trying to cram the additional grades within the narrow range of 60 to 70, and should have extended the range up to 80, 90, or 100 with appropriately defined levels within this range. The reasons this was not done is that there was tremendous pressure

to inaugurate the service as soon as possible, and a re-write of the grading book would have delayed the service anywhere from 6 months to forever.

All in all, I was employed by ANACS for 5½ years, serving as Senior Authenticator from 1980 to 1984. I resigned my position in March of 1984 to protest the firing of Mary Thompson, the Assistant to the Director of ANACS, for what I perceived were strictly political reasons.

By coincidence, I am now running for the Board of Governors of the ANA. Having earned my living as a professional numismatist for the past 11 years, first at COIN WORLD, then at ANACS, and now with a dealer in Chicago, I think that I can bring to the Board a unique combination of collector enthusiasm and practical experience in several important fields of numismatics.

If elected, one of the things that I will work to change is the grading scale used by ANACS. I will propose scrapping the 1-70 scale and replacing it with a 100 point scale featuring several more well-defined levels of Mint State coins.

The simplest method would be to keep the grades from 1 to 60, perhaps restoring the useful grades of VG10 and F15, and declare the range from 61 to 69 to be vacant under the new system. Several levels from 70 to 100 could then be set and defined, there being very few MS70 coins under the old system to be regraded.

Another possibility would be to rework all of the numbers from 1 to 100, with Good being 10, Very Good being 20, etc. However, there would be a long period wherein the numbering systems overlapped, so that 20 meant VG under one system and VF under the other. The new numbers would have to be coded in some manner, such as Good-110, Very Good-120, until such time as the prefix could be dropped.

As the concept of numerical grading came from the Early American Coppers field originally, I would like to ask my fellow EAC members what they think of either of these two solutions, or to suggest any other numerical grading system they would care to. Letters can be directed to the Editor for publication in PENNY-WISE, or to me directly at P.O. Box 1521, Evanston, IL 60201.

Sincerely yours,

Tom DeLorey

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LIFO, FIFO, OR FUBAR - THE RARE EDGE VARIETIES OF 1794 HALF CENTS

Frank Wilkinson

With input from Gene Braig, Roger Cohen, Jon Lusk, Richard Gross, Jim McGuigan, Milton Pfeffer, Bill Raymond, Bill Weber, and Bob Yuell.

There are 90 die varieties of half cent business strikes. Cohen lists 10 subvarieties; Breen lists 18. The six different edge varieties of 1794 are among the rarest half cents, and they present a formidable challenge to any one who wants to collect all the subvarieties of half cents. The most common of these six is rarer than the prohibitively expensive 1796 No Pole variety. In brief, the 1794 C-1 usually has large edge letters, while the 1794 C-2 through C-6 usually have small edge letters. Photographs and explanations for distinguishing large from small edge letters are more than adequate in both Breen and Cohen. The two questions I originally had about these subvarieties were: (1) how did these subvarieties come to be minted? and (2) just how rare are they? I've talked and corresponded with Gene Braig, Roger Cohen, Richard Gross, Jon Lusk, Jim McGuigan, Milton Pfeffer, Bill Raymond, Bill Weber, and Bob Yuell to get answers to these two questions. I feel that I do have adequate answers now which are as follows:

The half cent planchets were lettered by the Castaing machine which had 2 dies that stamped TWO HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR into the edge of the planchets. For the 1794 half cents, there were two pairs of dies used in the Castaing machine: one pair had the inscription in large letters and the other pair in small letters. The lettered planchets presumably were put into a basket or box until they were struck. The first batch(es) of planchets were struck with large edge letters; and for reasons unknown to us, the dies with the small edge letters were used next.

In accounting, there are three models that could describe the lettering, storage, then striking of these half cents. FIFO, which means First In, First Out, can be applied to the coining process as taking the most recently lettered planchets directly to be stamped. It's analagous to a grocer who puts the oldest milk on the front of the shelf. LIFO, Last In First Out, implies that there is a time lag between the lettering and stamping process. One can imagine that the planchets lettered first would be on the bottom of the box, and those made last would be on the top. It seems likely that the first planchets taken from the box would be those on top, which were the last ones lettered. FUBAR, Fouled Up Beyond All Recognition, is consistent with a combination of LIFO, FIFO, and the planchets being mixed together in the box. (It is conceivable that the coiner would reach into the pile of lettered planchets, grab a handful, and mix those still in the box.) The model which I'm presenting here was explained to me by a famous half cent collector accountant, is FUBAR. In brief, a fairly large number of large edge lettered (LEL) planchets were made, most of which were used up in striking the C-1a. Then a reasonably small number of small edge lettered (SEL) planchets were added to the pot and mixed with the LEL, and this mixture was nearly depleted by the end of the striking of Variety C-2. But more SEL's were added to the mixture periodically, and we are of the opinion that the mixture was depleted by the end of the striking of variety C-6. Obviously, if a specimen of variety C-7, 8, or 9 is found with LEL, this last point would be invalidated.

The rarity of the six subvarieties known to be extant is as follows: C-1b and C-2b each have 12 to 15 speciment known and are high R6; C-3b is represented

by 3 specimens; C-4b has 4 known specimens and is now R7+; C-5b is now semi-unique; and C-6b is unique.

It has been my observation that C-4b, 5b, and 6b are generally found in nicer condition than the respective C-4a, 5a, and 6a subvarieties. The C-3b's are not as nice as the C-3a's, however. Some of the C-2b's are nice, some are not. This trend may change as more of these are found.

Since these 1794 subvarieties were made by a reasonably random process, it is my opinion that one should not feel that the C-3b through C-6b are coins that one must have in his collection in order for the series to be complete.

TABLE I

Variety	No. of specimens extant (estimated)	No. of b specimens	Per cent b/ b plus a
C-1	500	15	3
2	750	15	2
3	60	3	5
4	500	4	1
5	150	2	1
6	25	1	4

Any comments about this model or any information about the die states or condition of coins that have not been published previously or covered in this article can be sent to me at 3524 Church Street, Clermont, Indiana 46234.

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For my personal collection I desire counterstamped large cents--with names, places, designs, addresses, occupations--plus any names or monograms from prepared logotype punches (in a rectangular or other shape border). Not wanted are large cents with stray marks, individual letters or numbers on them.

I thank the many EAC members who have sent me counterstamped large cents over the past two years. I hope to prepare a manuscript on these and am grateful for the information (and coins) supplied.

If you have some counterstamped cents, send them along with an invoice. Or, if you prefer, I would be pleased to make an offer upon examination. Either way, let's get together!

Dave Bowers
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JOHN C. HOYLER 4005 Small Boat Court Louisville, KY 40229

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EAC REGIONAL MEETING IN UTICA, NY

Richard A. Kurtz

January 20, 1985 - This report has been a long time in reaching you. I intended to write just after I returned from the EAC regional meeting in Utica, NY on September 29, 1984, but I just never got around to it. You might call my report "Observations of a Bust Half Collector".

Since Mr. Janowsky made the arrangements, he couldn't very well mention how well were they done, but I can. We were in an ideal meeting place which was well located, comfortable, quiet, and just the right size for the number of people in attendance. Mr. Janowsky broke the ice at the beginning of the meeting and he kept things rolling along. I'm sure that all of us who attended appreciated his efforts.

There was a lot more to the meeting than just good arrangements. It was a real thrill to see and handle high grade Chain cents that one usually only reads or hears about. The discovery of an 1830 N-11 cent is not an every day occurrence either. Several of us brought along our just-received Breen HALF CENT ENCYCLOPEDIAs, and others decided to buy a copy, based on what they saw. The discussion at the meeting on attribution was especially useful to a Bust half specialist with a secondary interest in half cents.

The decision to make next year's topic be on grading was partly the result of a lively discussion on the topic in Utica. Most of us agreed that we'd like to see an end to the practice of calling a higher grade coin with problems by another lower grade. While this rather common practice may relate to the relative value of the coin (e.g. an XF coin which is porous may be worth only a coin that is F), it is deceptive - many people would rather have a problem-free F coin than a problem-laden XF coin. We've got value and grade mixed up, perhaps because they are so closely related. A brother and sister are closely related too, but they aren't the same person.

A personal comment on the Breen ENCYCLOPEDIA: Ron Guth told me that it would be worth the wait, and I think that he was right. There's a wealth of information in the book; and I intend to take it along with me to shows, but not on the bourse floor. Cohen's fine book is much lighter and still the most practical reference for those situations. The two books complement each other nicely.

Mr. Fettinger mentioned in Utica that he welcomed comments on his proposed rarity/value scale. Since most of us had not yet received the September issue of PENNY-WISE, we were unable to do so. While I am used to the Sheldon scale, I think that I could adapt to Mr. Fettinger's scale very nicely. I am less certain of the value part, however, since the other factor of demand plays such an important part in establishing prices. Silver dollars from 1878 and up are common enough to pave the streets, but ridiculous prices are being paid for them just the same. My vote is to leave the value scale off.

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WILMINGTON (DEL.) COIN CLUB HOSTS EAC REGIONAL MEETING

Joe Kane

The 24th annual Wilmington (Del.) Coin Club Show was the site of a meeting of the EAC Mid-Atlantic Chapter on January 19, 1985. Despite bitterly cold weather and snow-covered roads, the meeting began as scheduled at 1 P.M., with a heartening turnout of nine members present for the first EAC chapter meeting held in conjunction with a club show in recent years.

Those signing the register included Charles S. Haas EAC #99, John F. Brady #189, Jules Reiver #5, W. J. Bareford #797, Joseph Kane #531, W. J. Irwin, Tom Sebring, K.W. McQueston, and H. J. McQuestion.

Official business including a plug for the EAC annual convention in Chicago in April, 1985 was quickly dispatched. The program consisted of Jules Reiver and Joe Kane sharing their impressions of the knowledge and other various aspects of the American Numismatic Society's recently held 'Coinage of the Americas' Conference. This was done by discussing who spoke and attempting to recreate in summary the main points of each speaker. It was also noted that ANS plans to publish these papers, and several members indicated a desire to acquire this publication when it becomes available.

Naturally, the meeting went into a 'show and tell' session, which included several ex Homer Downing-pedigreed 1794 large cents, including a triple pedigreed cent whose edge letters looked, at first glance, to be a graffiti artist's dream. Also shown were sets of cents and half cents, beautifully matched and mounted in custom-built holders. All too quickly, we made room for another group.

Finally, we thank the Wilmington Coin Club, particularly Jules Reiver and Ted Gulas, and we hope to meet again at next year's show.

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A VISIT TO THE MACON COIN CLUB SHOW

William L.Weeks

I recently visited the annual coin club show in Macon, Georgia. The show was relatively large for our area, having approximately 50 dealers. The show opened on a Friday at 10 A.M. and lasted until Sunday afternoon.

Since I know most of the dealers who attend the Atlanta shows, I didn't expect to find many new large cents available. Most times when I approach an Atlanta dealer's table, he will either show me his newest purchases or he will tell me that nothing has changed since my last visit. In spite of this, I rarely fail to spend all of my budget - I just switch into another area of interest such as Bust halves or early Spanish coins.

However, this Macon show turned out to be different. A Florida dealer whom I had seen only at large shows in the past was present, and he had recently purchased a complete date set of large cent. There were a number of different varieties available, such as a 1793 Liberty Cap, a 1793 Wreath cent, and a 1799 overdate. I quickly picked out an 1802 S-236 and an 1808 S-279, both of which I considered to be graded Fines but to him they were only VGs so I got a real good deal.

Since the dealer mentioned that he had all the dates, I inquired about those that were missing and he said that his partner had taken them to show another dealer. The partner had sold the 1796 Bust cent and the 1797 piece before he returned, and the remainder turned out to be duplicates of some varieties that I already own.

Later, I went to the other dealer to look at the 1796 and 1797 cents. The 1796 coin was the more common of the two LIHERTY varieties, although the dealer was convinced, after looking in the RED BOOK, that it was a major rarity. It was close to being the best VG Draped Bust cent that I have ever seen. The surfaces were smooth and medium brown in color, but there was little detail showing in the hair and wreath, perhaps partly due to a weak strike. It still didn't look like it was worth $200. The 1797 S-136, which he had, matched the description given above except that it had the detail of a F12 piece. I bought it for $80.

That night I dreamed about owning the 1793 Liberty Cap cent and the 1799 overdate. The next morning before returning to the show, I went through my collection and took out all the coins which I liked the least. I hoped to sell them and raise enough money to buy at least one of the two cents.

When I entered the coin show, I quickly went to the dealer's table to see whether or not he had sold the coins. They were still in his case, so I asked if I could take another look at them. The 1793 S-13 had very choice color and surfaces, but it only had the detail of a weak VG. The bust was mostly just an outline, although the date and LIBERTY were clear. The legend was very faint on the reverse, and the wreath and ONE CENT were very weak, mostly due to striking.

The 1799, an S-188, was also VG, but it was much stronger than the 1793. The color was a milk chocolate brown, and the surfaces were smooth, but it had one problem on the obverse - there were two diagonal scratches which went from the back of the hair in a line with the ear and crossed in front of the face. They

were about twice as deep as the average pinscratch, but the coin was still a desirable piece and I would love to have owned it.

I tried in vain to sell my meager selection of coins at the show, but all the interest was in bullion. My MS63 silver dollars were considered less than perfect, and my type coins created little interest. This is a buying market for the collector, and selling to dealers doesn't seem to be in. One dealer offered me such a pitifully low price for an 1849 large cent that I decided to give it to a young collector I know - maybe he will become a future EAC member.

If any of you who are reading this would like to know the name of the Florida dealer with the large cent collection, write to me at the address that I gave in the last issue of PENNY-WISE.

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A HOLIDAY INN COIN SHOW

Pat Cunningham

Nearly every town in America can boast of having a Holiday Inn, and nearly every Holiday Inn has had the honor of hosting a coin show. Indeed, many of the coins in my collection proudly lay claim to the pedigree 'ex Holiday Inn coin show'.

Preparing to attend one of these weekend events is almost like going on a camping trip, as there is quite a checklist to review before departure. Among the essentials are: Gray Sheet, Whitman coin collectors' checklist, Bausch and Lomb 10x lens, Overton, and Cohen. A pair of sunglasses is necessary in order to prevent being blinded by the glare of the MS65 silver dollars. And cold cash is a must, so I visit the instant bank teller and withdraw a few twenty dollar bills. Finally, I toss my checkbook into my brief case in case that I find something which I can't live without.

Upon entering the showroom, I look around to make sure that I have not accidentally wandered into a jewelers' convention. Sure enough, between all the tables laden with gold chains and silver art bars are a few tables sprinkled with what appears to be old coins. I grin and nod to some familiar faces before quickly taking a seat at a table on which are three plastic bags full of large cents. Each bag is labeled - 'your choice, $3. each', 'your choice, $5. each', 'your choice, $7. each'. Not being interested in middle or late date varieties, I hurriedly go through each bag, but every piece has a terminal case of the uglies.

At another table are a few Classic Head half cents, so I cross my fingers and pull up a chair. The dealer behind the table is involved in a discussion with his colleague on the ANACS scandal. My hands start to shake and my heart pounds as I examine a corroded 1809. ANACS is one of my least favorite topics, so I breathe slowly and count to 10 to avoid a hysterical outburst on the subject.

Finally, overcome by sheer frustration, I move on to the last remaining table and begin picking through a small hoard of harshly cleaned Bust halves. Suddenly, someone comes up from behind and asks to see a 1963 Franklin half. "Is this an MS65?", he asks, hopefully. I rise before an answer can be given and I push the stack of coins back to their owner. "Have a good show", I mumble, pushing the 10x lens into the pocket of my blue jeans.

Walking across the parking lot, I turn up my coat collar and smile. The money which I didn't spend today should just about cover my gasoline bill this month.

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REPORT ON EAC SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL MEETING

Tom Morley

On January 4, 1985, the first meeting of the Southeast Region of EAC took place in Florida. The meeting was held in conjunction with the F.U.N. show in Orlando.

Those in attendance were:

Doug Walcutt	New York	John and Mike Morton	Florida
C. Douglas Smith	New York	Emil Rochet	Maryland
John and Mabel Ann Wright	Michigan	Jack Robinson	Maryland
		Bill and Jill Panitch	New York
Jules and Irma Reiver	Delaware	Wallace Lee	Michigan
Lloyd and Martica Thompson	Michigan	Joseph Kane	Virginia

After an informal meeting for an hour when much copper talk took place in small groups, the formal meeting began with Doug Smith giving a talk on cataloguing the Starr cents. Doug then introduced Jules Reiver, and the two proceeded to expand on the joys and difficulties of cataloguing such an estate, plus much inside information which was enjoyed by all.

Jack Robinson was then asked what he had done with the collection of 1794's that he had purchased from Denis Loring. He reported that he still has most every piece, and that in most cases, they were different die states from the ones he had collected previously.

John Wright was then asked to speak, and he suggested that we start on the refreshments immediately.

Then came the copper showing time. A few pieces changed hands and some trading of coins took place.

The meeting was held at our new home, and my family had just moved in that day. This was later than planned, due to the problem of construction help being unavailable because of the Florida building boom going on. The meeting was quite a housewarming! The meeting finally broke up around 4 A.M. A great time was had by all.

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REPORT OF WEST COAST EAC REGIONAL MEETING

Doug Bird

An EAC West Coast Regional Meeting was held on February 1, 1985 during the Long Beach Numismatic and Philatelic Exposition. The following members and guests attended:

Bill Weber	Dan Boyko	Ron Guth
Marty Oghigian	Jack Collins	Tom Mulvaney
Alan Meghrig	Jeff Oliphant	Walter Breen
Daniel Presburger	Al Bennett	Bud Schweich
Sheridan Downey	Jim Matthews	Del Bland
Jim Goudge	Mary Bergman	Jack Robinson
Doug McHenry	John Bergman	Mark Borchardt
Dan Demeo	Jim Bergman	Sondra Beymer
Ralph Rucker	Joyce Kuntz	Jack Beymer
Andy Boyke	G. Lee Kuntz	David Henderson
Phil Ralls	David Zim	Bill Raymond

Phil Ralls, West Coast Chairman, called the meeting to order. Jeff Oliphant, EAC president, reported on the excellent preparations being made for the upcoming national convention to be held at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel in Chicago in April.

Next, there was a general report about the Starr II auction. The consensus was that this was strictly a collector's auction with die state pieces bringing strong prices and there were noticeably less dealers in attendance than usual.

Additionally, there was a report that the recent ANS seminar on coppers was well attended and the papers presented were excellent. It was also mentioned that this was the first time in quite a while that the ANS had made the large cent collection available so that EACers could view it.

Recent new discoveries reported at the meeting were:

1806 half cent B-2 in G4
1797 large cent NC2 in VG10
1801 large cent S-217 in G4
1801 large cent NC1 in VG10

Walter Breen reported that he has begun the narrative portion of the early date large cent book revision and that the photography will begin shortly.

The meeting then concluded with Jack Robinson providing some lots from his upcoming auction for a grading forum/exercise.

The next meeting of the West Coast Region will be held during the Long Beach Numismatic and Philatelic Exposition on Friday evening, May 31, 1985, at 7:30 P.M.

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MID-ATLANTIC EAC REGIONAL MEETING

Mike Packard

The Mid-Atlantic region of EAC held a meeting on Saturday, February 16, at the Sheraton Inn in Lanham, MD. The following members and guests attended:

John F. Brady	Richard McAfee	Darwin Palmer, Jr.
Ed Craig	Craig McDonald	Jack H. Robinson
Dave Ennist	Betty McDonald	Wallace Stone
Franklin W. Goss	Kermit Smyth	John Trocki
Rick Leonard	John Nicholas	Keith Wolfe
Herb H. Lindstrom	Carl Earl Ostiguy	Chris Young
Robert E. Matthews	Mike Packard	Bob Younglof

This was the largest Mid-Atlantic meeting in the past several years and resulted, in part at least, from the fine auction of copper coins held by McLaughlin and Robinson later in the day. Mike Packard encouraged those in attendance to view the auction lots if they had not already done so. All the lots were graded by strict EAC standards, and Mike suggested that viewing the lots might be of better educational value than what would take place during the rest of the meeting.

Mike then gave a plug for the EAC Convention to be held in Chicago the weekend of April 13. He mentioned that both air fares and room rates were very reasonable and he encouraged everyone to attend.

Mike Packard gave a talk on the minting of Massachusetts copper coins. A heavy work load has kept him from writing up his notes for P-W, but he hopes to have them ready for the May issue.

Jack Robinson and John Nicholas had an interesting discussion on the pricing of early coppers. Bob Matthews brought along his copy of John Wright's photos of the early Newcombs and he shared them with interested members. The meeting then broke up, with most members heading for the auction.

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A TRIP TO F.U.N. AND THE EAC REGIONAL MEETING

John C. Morton

After a refreshing 8-hour drive from my home to the Cocoa Beach area, I arrived at my son's house to eat and visit with him and his family, after which I and my son, Mike, left for Tom Morley's house for the EAC regional meeting. Not that I was eager or anything, but I did manage to be the first to arrive. Tom made Mike and me feel right at home in his brand-new house. We sat and talked, and I broke out my middle date collection of large cents which I just happened to have with me - that really broke the ice. Then, more EACers started arriving, and by 9 P.M., the 7:30 P.M. meeting got started in earnest.

When the meeting started, we all introduced ourselves and stated our collecting interests. Then Doug Smith told us his story about cataloguing the Starr coins for the Stack's auction, after which Jules Reiver spoke and told a couple of good war stories. Next, we all discussed the availability and possible whereabouts of unattributed cents yet to be brought out. We discussed the EAC, what it stands for, and we all re-affirmed our feelings of helping our fellow collectors, improving our own knowledge, and giving freely of our knowledge to new collectors. With that, we recessed for refreshments, coin trading, viewing, and buying and selling.

Tom Morley brought out his collection of beautiful 1794's for all to see. He also showed us an 1823 re-strike in BU. John Wright spent most of the evening making aluminum foil impressions of my coins, but he did manage to sell me 4 dates and varieties that I was missing. The next day on the bourse floor I got 3 more coins from Mathews Money Tree and 2 more from John Wright, plus Jack Borkhardt is sending me one - so I really made out very well.

The EAC meeting broke up at 1 A.M. and then only because we all had to be on the bourse by 9 A.M. the next day. I really felt the boundless enthusiasm in that room - it is the greatest feeling and camaraderie a collector can ever experience. There were a group of 18 or so men and women from all parts of the country, many of whom had never met before and all in a strange place, yet sharing a strong and common bond. Bill Panitch of Albany, NY even brought the youngest EACer - his newborn son - he didn't cry except when he didn't get to bid in the auction. On a serious note, it was a memorable experience for my son and me.

Saturday morning found Mike and me on the bourse floor, trying to get a look at over 375 dealers and 700 tables of coins! Whew! It seemed almost impossible to do, but I teamed up with John Wright and we each started at opposite ends of a row and met in the middle. We did our best to cherrypick, but we found a very low supply of nice middle date cents, a few BU Randall Hoard coins, and a bunch of low grade common stuff. I found a nice looking 1823 and called John over to look at it. "Well," he said, "whizzed, dipped, etched, re-tooled" and re-colored - the best part was that the dealer only wanted $600. for it.

I spent most of the day with John and enjoyed every minute of it. I met many EACers whom I had only corresponded with before, so the day was well enjoyed. I even got to see the Starr II rarities which Jack Robinson had with him. I think the biggest thrill was actually holding and examining a Starred Reverse cent. I also held and saw Tom R's 1818 N-4 Condition Census coin. What a beautiful specimen!

I saw piles of gold and silver on dealers' tables all over the bourse, but nothing thrills me more than an unattributed cent. Many thanks to all the EACers who made my F.U.N. visit truly FUN!

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McLAUGHLIN & ROBINSON PRESENT A GREAT AUCTION

Mike Packard

On Saturday, February 16, McLaughlin and Robinson Coins, Inc. of Vienna, VA held an auction of early American copper coins. In the auction were 3 Colonial coins, 87 half cents, 256 large cents, 10 Hard Times tokens, and 3 electrotypes of Colonials. The coins were graded according to strict EAC grading standards. I stated at the EAC meeting held prior to the auction that those who had not previewed the auction lots should do so, if only for the education in proper grading. I am not trying to imply that I agreed with every grade because I didn't. Grading is largely a subjective art form, and I disagreed with Jack's grading in a number of instances but, save for two instances, I was always within 5 points of Jack's grades. In one instance, there was a typographical error in the catalogue; in the other, I graded the coin 8 points lower than Jack did. (I should note that I am a half cent collector, so that I concentrated on the half cents and only briefly perused the large cents.)

In general, I found the half cents to be a more interesting group of coins than the large cents (half cents as a rule are more interesting than large cents anyway). There were several error coins and some high grade rarities among the half cents. Many of the more common half cents were in grades VF30 and up. Most of the large cents fell in the G-VG range, but there were some rarely offered varieties and even one CC 1794 cent.

The highlights of the auction were:

HALF CENTS:	1800	C-1	VF30	double-struck (2nd strike 90 per cent off-center). at $825. to the book.
	1800/0	C-2	VG10	at $525.
	1803	C-1	EF40	$420.
	1804	C-7	F15	$380.
	1805	C-3	VG10	$510. to the book.
	1808/7	C-2	VF35	$1,208. to the book.
LARGE CENTS:	1793	S-7	Fr2	$840. to the book.
	1794	S-58	EF45	CC-2 $3,938. to the book.
	1804	S-264	G4	$1,150.
	1807/6	S-272	AG3	$515. to the book.
	1822	N-9	G6	$190.

None of the above prices included the 10 per cent buyer's fee.

Afficionados of large cents may not realize it but high grade 1803 half cents are difficult to find. There was a lot of interest in the EF40 example in the auction and a lot of disappointment when it opened at $420. (it catalogues in that grade at about $275.). One bidder in the back of the room was undaunted and he raised the bid. The book responded to the next level, then the bidder, and then the book. Suddenly, the floor bidder asked: "Is that my mail bid? Am I bidding against myself?" Jack checked the mail bids and confirmed the bidder's suspicion. Jack reduced the bid to $420., and everyone was happy. Some people will go to almost any length to get what they want.

Jack Robinson put a lot of time and effort into insuring that the lots in the auction (his second early American copper auction) were properly graded. I am eagerly awaiting his third all-copper auction and I encourage other EAC members to send for the catalogue when it becomes available and to bid with confidence.

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SOME THOUGHTS OUT LOUD TO WALTER BREEN

John C. Hoyler

Walter - as you have volunteered (?) to do the revision of Dr. Sheldon's PENNY WHIMSY, a couple of thoughts came to mind as to how you might make the book more usable by the average EAC member. There seem to be two or three areas in which reference books fall down. They are:

1. SIZE - if it does a great job of covering the material intended, such as your half cent volume, it tends to be too heavy to carry around at shows. A possible answer would be to cover the series in two volumes, perhaps 1793-1799 in one volume and 1800-1814 in volume two.

2. GRADING - as well as having an excellent written description of each grade and each series to be covered, pictures should be included particularly of the grades G4 to VF30 - I believe that these would cover the areas which 90 per cent of our members collect. As much as I love to look at the photographs of a Condition Census coin, the fact is that I can't afford to collect such pieces and I believe that most large cent collectors are in the same position as I.

While on the subject of grading, I feel that the photographs used to illustrate grading should tend to show not an average F12 coin, for example, but a picture of a coin which <u>just</u> makes the grade of F12. That way, the average member could compare his coin to the photograph to see if his coin makes the grade. Thus, if the EAC grading standard is to be used, if the coin matches the F12 photograph, and if the coin has no damage and the color is good, it probably is a F12 coin. We might even get to the point where we could do as good a job of grading in general as does the EAC committee. All of us would be better off if grading skills took a step forward.

3. ATTRIBUTING - Walter, what I would like to see here is two-fold: first of all, I would request that in addition to the large cent volume, put out a set of attributing guides for the various dates, possibly on plastic-type pages punched for a 3-ring binder. That way, I would have something to take to the shows which would help me to cherrypick, I hope. Secondly, Dr. Sheldon's quick attributing guide works well when one is dealing with high grade coins, but it has problems when one is confronted with coins in AG3 to VG7. Could you please give us some help here as to what diagnostic features will be visible on a G4 coin?

Walter, I had intended to mail these suggestions to you, but instead, I decided to send them to Doc Lapp for publication in PENNY-WISE so that all the EAC members can comment. I believe that now is the time for ideas for your book, not after it has been finished and at the printer's. By soliciting such ideas, we can come up with a very useful book - a tool to aid in our enjoyment of our large coppers.

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A Nostalgic Recollection:

THREE LETTERS BY THOMAS L. ELDER

Tom DeLorey

Several years ago, Steve Ivy was kind enough to give me three letters written by Thomas L. Elder to the sons of David Proskey, concerning the disposition of their just-deceased father's coin collection. In light of the contributions of Proskey and Elder to the large cent literature, I thought that a condensation of these letters might be of interest to the readership of PENNY-WISE.

All three letters are on the letterhead of The Elder Coin and Curio Corporation, New York City. The first letter, dated August 16, 1928, is addressed to Mr. David V. Proskey, North Caldwell, NJ and marked Private.

"Dear Mr. Proskey:

I read with some shock the news of the death of my old friend Mr. David Proskey, your father. I'd like to attend the funeral services, which I understand are to be held on Saturday PM.

It is not that I am wanting at this moment, when you are all broken down with sorrow over the death of your father, that I write to give you a hint about his collection which remains, but that I am anxious for its safe preservation from the hands of one or two individuals who have for years posed as his 'great friends'. (The underline and quotes are by Elder - TD) I would very much like to have a private word with you at the proper time, and it is very likely that I can give you some hints of great value to you if you desire to have them from one who is seriously interested in preventing some of the things which have happened to other collections after the deaths of their owners, and which will happen again provided a free hand is given to the party or parties I refer to.

I ask you to kindly treat this matter as entirely confidential, and say nothing about it to anyone as it may so happen that if anything is said, it may fall into the ears of the very person I am specially thinking of among the collectors! If my suggestion is accepted and you see me, I think I can explain as certain of these people have caused me losses and will not hesitate in order to further their own ends to treat your collection the very same way.

Believe me.

Very truly yours,

Thos. L. Elder (signature)
Prest. & Treasr."

The second letter is dated Saturday, August 18, 1928, and is addressed to Mr. Harold Proskey:

"Dear Mr. Proskey:

(The letter begins with an eight-line-story about why he had been unable to go to the funeral that day on account of having to fire a clerk for lying, though I doubt this was of interest to Proskey -- TD)

It was a surprise to hear of your father's death. If I can be of any service or advice to any of you, kindly let me know or see me. Your

father felt most kindly to me in recent years, and I feel I can do more of justice to his collection, in a series of sales, than anyone in the country. I refer you to Henry McAleenan, Jr., 6th Avenue and 35th Street, a dealer, for whom I sold a collection last June. I secured double the best offer he had for the collection privately. I will go and see you at any time you elect. The weather was terribly hot today and I made a run for the ferry but gave up after I got half way down to it.

Yours truly,

Thos. L. Elder" (signature)

The third letter is dated August 21, 1928 and is addressed merely "Dear Mr. Proskey", so it is not known which brother it was intended for.

"Thank you very much for your favor. The reason I could not get to the funeral was I was breaking in a new clerk, a young woman, and finding she had told me several lies during the week about herself and making the bad start of using my telephone every day without my permission, I had to let her go Saturday, the end of the week, and it was because she fought and abused us as she left that I couldn't get away to make the ferry boat in time. The help problem is troublesome.

I wrote your brother about a matter which I want to speak with you about at your convenience. I have had several coins stolen from me by a person who has been complained about by others dealing in coins, but he was a pretended 'great friend' of Mr. Proskey. Now, even if I stood no chance of having anything to do with your collection, I want to warn you, and also against another whom he is close to who offers coins at times. The second man is honest, I believe, but his treatment of collections is something barbarous. Recently, he slaughtered a big collection which the other individual largely helped him land for sales.

I don't want to mention names, because the first individual is a very enterprising one, anxious to prosecute anyone casting any slights on his reputation, guilty though he is. I often thought of warning Mr. Proskey, but knowing how close they had always been I hesitated, yet I am absolutely confident that the man is guilty.

We have held over 200 auction sales. Mr. Proskey invited me out to see him only recently, but I live in Pleasantville on the Harlem Disvision and a trip out there would mean my getting home late at night, and my wife is an invalid.

I can outline to you how your collections can be disposed of to the best advantage, particularly the coins. The best antiques, if I were you, I would send in to NY to be sold and not sell them on the ground there. Get them where competition is greatest and best.

A series of coin sales, not of one kind of coins but of a variety of the various classes in each sale, so as to attract all classes of buyers, is the thing. This could be kept going perhaps for a couple of years and the net results would be very gratifying to you.

(Then there follows a description of the McAleenan sale and the prices which it and the entire catalogue realized--TD)

In my next catalogue, I am putting a nice notice of Mr. Proskey. He was a man of strong feelings and sympathies. In former years, he and I had controversies, not over any question of honesty or fair dealing but he took strong sides on all questions as you know, but for the last (paper torn--TD) years or more he and I have got on finely and have done much business. I am willing to serve his family in any fair way I can and am absolutely certain it would be to their interest. Dr. Valentine of NJ sent me his collection and I got double for it what others offered for it, offers he stated were 'from the most prominent dealers'.

Remember, collectors have a great respect for the coins of a dead collector, for they know the sale will be absolute, and the queer thing about it is they bring far more than the sales of a living collector.

Yours truly,

Thos. L. Elder" (signature)

The interesting questions are, who were the 'great friends' of Proskey referred to by Elder, and were they going to rip off Proskey's heirs or was Elder trying to discredit them unjustly so that he might do the ripping himself?

At the 1976 ANA convention I asked Abe Kosoff if he had known Tom Elder, and if he could tell me anything about him. Abe told me that he indeed had known Elder and had attended several of his auctions in New York back in the late 1920's and early 1930's. He then said that he had been brought up to believe that if you cannot say something nice about a person you shouldn't say anything at all, and that he was sorry but he could not tell me anything about Elder.

Of course, he did tell me several stories about Elder, including one time when he was sitting in at a sale and a man got up and started to walk out of the room. Elder stopped the sale and loudly demanded of the man as to how he could walk out of the sale when he hadn't paid for his lots from the previous sale, and he proceeded to tell the audience what a liar and cheat the man was. The man, who had been on his way to the rest room, proceeded instead to his attorney, who informed Elder that he has mistaken his client for somebody else and would he please apologize in front of the next auction audience? (Elder did.)

Regardless of who was in the right, I thought that this vignette of the competitive nature of the coin market back in the 1920's would be amusing to the EAC membership. Fortunately, the coin market is much more honorable in its dealings today.

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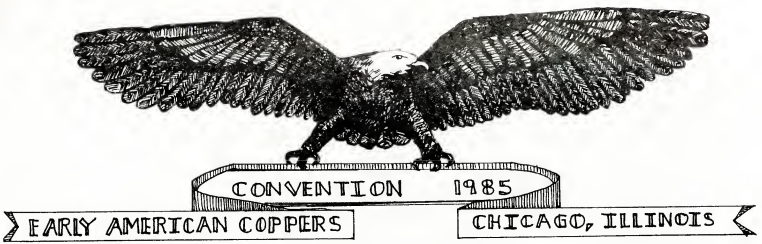
NEW CANDIDATES FOR EAC MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have applied for membership in EAC since the last issue of P-W. Provided that no adverse comments on any particular individual are received by the membership committee before the May issue of P-W, all will be declared elected to full membership at that time. Chairman of the membership committee is Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215.

		Member Number
Pullen, Norman	Portland, ME	2225
Halpern, Herman	Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ	2226
Brookes, Al	Golden, CO	2227
Armstrong, Gregg	Renton, WA	2228
Zver, J. C.	Park Ridge, IL	2229
Trapp, Richard W.	St. Paul, MN	2230
Space, Kevin	Minden, NE	2231
Pleiter, Jack	Tucson, AZ	2232
Adamski, Joseph J.	Jenison, MI	2233
Grinder, Lawrence R.	Biloxi, MS	2234
Chips, Stanley D.	Vienna, WV	2235
Goodrich, Bill	Fort Thomas, KY	2236
McAfee, Richard A. II	Leesburg, VA	2237
Bane, Thomas R.	Peterborough, NH	2238
Hainer, Norman F.	Washington, PA	2239
Fleegler, Earl	Beachwood, OH	2240
Steinegger, R. A.	Portland, OR	2241
Seacord, Franklin P.	Palatine, IL	2242
Pfeiffer, Charles A.	Maitland, FL	2243
Steimle, Frank	Wanamassa, NJ	2244
Forstbauer, R. A.	Rio Rancho, NM	2245
Kucera, Clint J.	Omaha, NE	2246
Palombo, Joseph Michael	Providence, RI	2247
McKinney, Raymond K.	Plattsburgh, NY	2248
Herron, Lee	Newark, DE	2249
Englehardt, Clyde R.	Toldeo, OH	2250
Lorenzo, John	Hackensack, NJ	2251
Walker, William H. II	Princeton, NJ	2252
Viskocil, Joseph F., Jr.	Hockessin, DE	2253
Travis, R. L.	Davis, CA	2254
Cardwell, Michael H.	Lexington, KY	2255
Alt, Gary W., Sr.	Lockport, NY	2256
Kretz, Donald R.	Morris Plains, NJ	2257
Christel, David P.	Manitowoc, WI	2258
Robenstein, Martin	Bay Shore, NY	2259
Van Ness, Robert P.	Louisville, KY	2260
Kommor, Steven D.	Louisville, KY	2261
Darling, Randy W.	Phoenix, AZ	2262
Hirsch, David H.	Lompoc, CA	2263
Kleiman, Mark	Toronto, Ontario	2264
Cores, George	River Grove, IL	2265
Blakely, Mark	Temple City, CA	2266



1985 EAC CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Don Valenziano, Jr., Chairman

The 1985 convention of the Early American Coppers Club will be held on April 12-14 at the Ramada Inn-O'Hare, Mannheim and Higgins Roads, Rosemont, IL 60018. The hotel is conveniently located to O'Hare International Airport and to downtown Chicago.

HOST HOTEL

The convention rate of $55. per night for a single or double room is still available, but you must make your reservation by March 29. Use the reservation card printed below, and mail it in today. The fee which EAC will pay for the meeting rooms is determined by the number of bedrooms reserved, so we need your support.

A 24-hour courtesy bus service between the motel and O'Hare Airport is available. If you are arriving by car, head for the airport and before entering the terminals, turn off onto the Mannheim North exit, go through two stop lights, and then note the Ramada Inn on your left. Complementary parking is available to our members and guests.

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April 12-14, 1985

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HOSPITALITY ROOM

If you arrive on Thursday, April 11, be sure to attend the informal gathering at our Hospitality Room, sponsored by the Illinois EACers.

BOURSE

At the present time, 28 tables have been sold. Only a few remain. The fee per table is $60. If you are interested in setting up a bourse table at the convention, please contact me as soon as possible.

Don Valenziano, Jr.
2837 North 74th Court
Elmwood Park, IL 60635

SECURITY

Continuous security will be provided from 2 P.M. Thursday until 2 P.M. Sunday. The hotel will provide safe deposit boxes to registered guests free of charge.

EXHIBITS

Joe Tomasko has lined up some very nice exhibits. There is still plenty of room for your own exhibit. Get in touch now with Joe, and he will have your case ready for you.

LADIES ACTIVITIES

Many wives are planning to attend the convention this year. We hope that they will participate in the many activities which Joan Widok has arranged for them. Friday will offer a luncheon and shopping spree. A tour of the Long Grove Antique Village has been planned for Saturday. In the evening, a dinner and theater package has been arranged. The play is "Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Coat" and the price is $38. If you would like to attend, please send your check now so that we can obtain the tickets.

Be sure to ask at our registration desk for further details and for last minute changes.

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CONVENTION SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

Thursday, April 11	
4 to 7 P.M.	Registration open
4 to 7 P.M.	Hospitality Room open - hosted by Illinois EACers
2 to 10 P.M.	Security Room open to receive valuables
Friday, April 12	
8 to 9 A.M.	Dealer, exhibitor, and convention set-up
9 AM to 5 PM	Registration open
9 AM to 5 PM	Bourse open to the public
11 AM to 4 PM	Ladies' luncheon and shopping excursion
11 AM to 5 PM	Auction lot viewing
7 PM to ?	EAC Educational Forum in Room A

Saturday, April 13

9 AM to 5 PM	Registration open
9 AM to 5 PM	Bourse open to the public
11 AM to 4 PM	Ladies' tour of Long Grove Antique Village
11 AM to 5 PM	Sale lot viewing
4:30 PM to ?	EAC Board Meeting, location to be announced
6 PM to ?	EAC Sale '85 in Room A
7 PM to 11 PM	Ladies' Dinner Theater Outing

Sunday, April 14

9 AM to 10:30 AM	Annual EAC General Meeting in Room A
10:30 AM to 1 PM	Registration open
10:30 AM to 2 PM	Bourse open to the public

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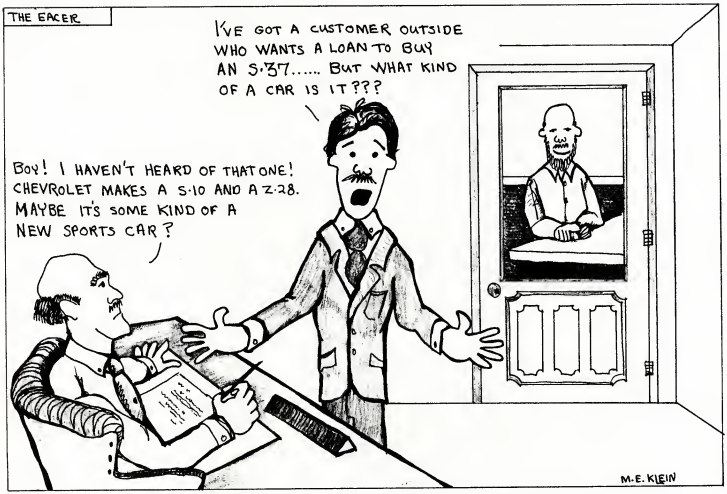

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

REGIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCED FOR MINNEAPOLIS AREA:

This year Minneapolis will host the Central States Numismatic Society convention on April 26-28. All EACers, particularly those from the upper mid-west area are invited to attend.

An EAC meeting and program is being scheduled for Saturday afternoon, April 27. The topic for discussion will be centered around Pete Smith's ANS presentation of die state progressions of the Turban cents. Both slides and coins will be available for viewing and examining.

This will be our first regional meeting in this area to be held in conjunction with a major coin show. We hope to meet a number of new EAC members from the surrounding area. Exact time of the meeting will be carried in the CSNS program.

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Mike Packard wishes to announce that the next EAC meeting of the Mid-Atlantic region will be held at 1:30 P.M. on Saturday, April 20 at the Sheraton Inn in Lanham, MD.

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Box of 500 $7.40 Specify color desired. Send SASE for sample.
Sulfur ointment 10% 1+oz. jar $2.00
Rarity rating and Condition Census update of cents of 1793-1814
(from P-W 1979-1980 revision by Denis Loring) .. 33 pgs. $2.65
Attribution guides for Matron Head Cents 1816-35 .. 27 pgs. $2.45

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ASK JOHN

John D. Wright, NLG

All questions great and small -- AJ muddles through them all. The questions come from you; the replies published are topics thought to be of interest to the most people. Do you have a question (or more) about EAC, about old copper, or about other related tidbits? Write me.

John D. Wright
1468 Timberlane Dr.
St.Joseph, MI 49085

AJ54: Your 'Quick Finders' lists mid-date cent variety rarities as of 1976. The Newcomb reprint by Quarterman lists your ratings as of 1981. What are the current (1985) counts on the rarest 1816-1839 cent varieties?

Ans: A straight-man like you I can always use. The following notes have been building for over a decade, with the intent of publishing under the title "WHERE HAVE ALL THE R8's GONE?". Since this information continues to change, parts of it will likely be obsolete by the time it hits print (3/85). Anyone who has new examples of any of the first eleven of these, please contact me. Your coin can be either mailed to me for verification (use registered mail), or it can be brought to EAC85.

1822 #13
Obverse N7,8,12 late. The crack from *7 to head is present but most are too worn to show it.

Reverse N11 late, rim dished at top, dentilation a bit faded.

Discovered by Willard Blaisdell in 1947. Breen found the second in 1952, Del Bland the third in the late 60's, Jules Reiver the fourth around that time. Others have turned up, one every one-to-three years since 1972. I know of 17 pieces and have pressings on file of 13 of them.

35	NSchultz-DNBland-JReiver	Tan, darker spot below ear.
25	WCBlaisdell-DNB-RENaftzger	35 but repaired on neck.
12	JReiver-RSBrown	Dark, rough
12	FHBorcherdt	Clean, nice coin
12	WBreen-NN50:1435-Starr I:160-JHRobinson	
10	RCBurress	
10	CGoodridge	
8	WVonHardenberg	
7	EDJasper	
5	2 pieces	
4	3 pieces	
3	3 pieces	

1822 #14
Obverse N7,8,12 early, no crack *7 to head.

Reverse 1821 N1 late, with light horizontal crack through I(TED), lower wreath, C(A), and even fainter vertical crack between S O, through N(E), E(NT), to ribbon.

Discovered in Minneapolis by Dick Punchard the week after the Starr I sale (6/84). Del Bland and I have both examined and verified the coin. OLD STYLE REVERSE LETTERS as on 1816 to early 1819. Check all so-marked N12's of 1822 (which this most resembles). Bland called Dick's coin F12, I lean toward F15. As of 3/85 nobody has announced a second one.

12 RVPunchard 6/84

1827 N12
Obverse N3 late, with and without a crack from rim between 18 to back of ear. I have seen one with extra crack from mouth to *2.

Reverse 1828 N1,12, cracked as always.

First published in Clapp's Appendix to the 1924 Mehl reprint of Andrews. Hines got his in 1929. Was that before or after Newcomb got his? Today I know of 24 pieces, of which about two in every three have the obverse crack. I have never cherried one of this variety.

60 HKDowning:2170-WCBlaisdell-RENaftzger
30 BReinoehl Smooth brown, preferable to Starr coin.
30 HCHines-WHSheldon-Starr I:204-WARasmussen
As 'XF45' -- sharp but finely rough.
15 DNBland-GMPatterson-RSBrown VF+ with rev corrosion.
15 DWLoring-DWHolmes VF but evenly rough.
12 GHClapp-ANS
12 JCMorton-JHRobinson
10 DWLoring-JDWright
10 JBeymer-JHRobinson
10 MDShepherd
10 Newcomb:591-49ANA:16725-WCBlaisdell-RENaftzger
8 LLHeilbronner 12/84
7 3 pieces
6 1 piece
5 3 pieces
4 2 pieces
3 2 pieces
2 1 piece

1830 N9
Obverse N7,8,11 late, with crack to base of bust.

Reverse N2,5 early, with line from leaftip to U.

Likely discovered by Frank Andrews in 1882 or so, as the discovery coin is pedigreed 'Andrews-Newcomb'. Unknown to Andrews in 1881, but published in his 1883 edition. Del Bland turned up the second one in Boston in 1969 (86 years later!), to me at ANA69. Denis Loring found the third (5/73) in Bowers' stock. I found the fourth (3/76), sending my first to Robbie Brown. Numbers 5 and 6 turned up in late 1982, the seventh in 1983, and the eighth in late 1984. I have seen and pressed all eight of then.

25 B&R 5/73-DWLoring-RENaftzger Flat strike as all. 35 but for gouge on nose, long nick on neck, rev scratch at NT, cleaned and retoned.
15 FAndrews-HRNewcomb:620-FStarr I:240-WARasmussen 25 detail, but dark, satiny, finely rough, gouge on throat, rim scrape below date.
7 DNBland 8/69-JDWright-RSBrown 8/76
7 JDWright 3/76
7 DFrederick 10/82-FHBorcherdt
7 JHRobinson 9/82
6 DSheely 11/84-DWHolmes
5 MDPackard 11/83-FHBorcherdt-RVPunchard

1830 N11
Obverse N7,8,9 late, with crack to base of bust.

Reverse N4 late, all cracks, plus crack top E(D) to rim and clash in center of reverse from coronet and ear.

Known to ACGies in 1914, reported to him by CEMcGirk, who published it in the 11/14 Numismatist as his "#1I". When Newcomb published (1940), he knew of only one -- the Blaisdell coin, purchased by WCB from Henry Chapman in 8/34. Did Blaisdell cherry it, or did he buy it as a new variety? The Gies FPL by Stack's (1942) did not have this variety. Hines cherried one in 8/41, and Breen found the third in 1956 (sold it in the NN50 sale). I found the fourth in a shoebox of loose cents from an Ohio dealer in 11/71. Rod Burress found the fifth in 1972 and I the sixth in 1975. Bill Noyes' was the seventh (1975), Clint Hollins' the eighth (1977), and another by me in 1977. Dan Holmes found #10 in 1978, Jim Corrado #11 and #12 in 1979. In 1980 I found #13 and Corrado #14; in 1981 Phil Horner found #15. I found #16 in 1982, and the last three months of 1984 saw three more uncovered: one by me, one by John Fettinger, and one by Tom Reynolds. Reynolds found his second one the next month (#20) in 1/85, joining the "multiple finder" club of Jim Corrado (3) and me (6). An interesting note is that twelve of the first twenty pieces have come out of the west Ohio area. I have pressings on file of eighteen of the twenty known examples of 30N11.

(1830 N11 continued)

50 JDWright 7/82
35 JGFettinger 10/84
15 CHollins 3/77-JHRobinson 4/82
12 JDWright 6/75-FHBorcherdt 8/82
15 JDWright 11/71-RSBrown 8/76
12 JDWright 4/80-DBPalmer-RVPunchard 3/83
12 RCBurress 11/72
12 HCHines 8/41-WHSheldon-FStarr II:1671-WARasmussen
10 TReynolds 1/85-kTFMatthews
10 JLCorrado 8/80
8 JDWright 9/84-TFMatthews-EAC85:
7 DWHolmes 7/78
6 WCNoyes 12/75-EAC80:201-TSChalkley
5 WCBlaisdell 8/34-RENaftzger 2/77 or so
5 JDWright 6/77-JEDillow-FHBorcherdrt-RVPunchard-WAWeimer
5 JLCorrado 5/79-DBPalmer-JReiver
5 TReynolds 12/84-ELKnee
4 WBreen 1956-NN50:1510-AMD
4 JLCorrado 10/79-EAC82:347-JHRobinson
3 PDHorner 2/81-EAC81:417-REVail

1834 N7
Obverse new, similar to N6

Reverse new, similar to N6

Likely discovered by Newcomb in the 1930's or possibly the late 1920's. Five pieces are known to me, all Proof. I don't know of anyone besides myself who has seen all five pieces. There is some debate as to whether this evidently proof-only issue should be considered as part of the regular series. Regardless, I'd certainly love to have one in my collection.

Proof 65 CMWilliams:404-FStarr I:292-RENaftzger Fully struck, glittering golden Proof with a few light pin scratches outside *5. Color may be faded from an old dipping, but looks fantastic.

Proof 63 HRNewcomb:656-FStarr I:291-RENaftzger Fully struck, lovely Proof, dark, with 'water rings' around devices, possibly from an old dipping. Between its plating in the Newcomb book and its sale in the Starr estate, it seems to have lost much of its fire. This might be temporary, to be revived with proper brushing. If so, it may surpass the Williams piece.

Proof 60 NJ-ANACS-?? A gorgeous glittering Proof, but very flatly struck. Bought a few decades ago by a New Jersey dentist who in 5/80 sent it to ANACS for certification. ANACS sent it to me as consultant. Tony Terranova bought the coin before ANA80 and sold it to Stack's. Tony said they sold it over the phone while he was still in the shop. I could not find the owner, but learned these details later from Tony.

Proof 55 French:540 (as "A6")-TJClarke-RENaftzger A trifle blunt, some hairlines. Lovely coin, but lacks the glitter of the ones above.

Proof 45 John Nicholas cherry around 1/80, at a local bourse as "1834 XF". Coin is scuffed up, slightly worn, scraped on lower left obverse, and is about 50% buried in some kind of glop -- definitely post-striking, definitely a detriment that wants to come off. JJN believes it to be bronzing material, mint-applied. I disagree, think it was possibly a very shoddy lacquer job or who knows what. I saw the coin at EAC80 (Washington, DC), was allowed to look but not touch, was not permitted to ring it or press it. Where a piece of glop had flaked off, bright Proof flash shows.

1835 #18
Obverse N3,4,10 late, with cracks strong, much rim crumbling.

Reverse N12,13 early, no cracks, no clash.

Known to ACGies in 1914, reported by him to CEMcGirk, who published it in the 11/14 Numismatist as his "#1V". There was none in the Gies FPL by Stack's in 1942. Newcomb failed to pick up the McKGirk listing, never saw one. This variety was rediscovered by Breen in 1952. A second example turned up in 1956, a third in 1959, a fourth in 1969, and a flurry of them in 1972-1973. I now know of 34 pieces, so it has finally fallen below R6. I have owned twelve of them.

20 JDWright 3/73
15 DWLoring 3/72-RENaftzger
15 RCBurress 1972
12 WBreen 1952-NN50:1571-FStarr I:317-DWHolmes
12 DNBland 8/69-JDWright-TSChalkley 3/73
12 LAYoung-DNBland-RSBrown
10 RCBurress-JSBurress (Rod's dad)
10 JReiver
8 5 pieces
7 1 piece
6 5 pieces
5 6 pieces
4 6 pieces
3 2 pieces

1835 #19
Obverse N17 late, dentilation mushed out, annular die-buckling at stars, die rust-pitted.

Reverse N14 early, flat fields, crisp dentilation, prooflike.

Discovered by me in my own set (as an N14) in 1/82, published and plated in PENNY-WISE 3/82, presented at the educational forum at EAC82 (3/82, Cincinnati). Bob Grellman, checking his date set, recognized the second one in 4/82. I found two others in 5 and 6/82, Joe Benoit found the fifth in 12/82, I the sixth in 6/83, and Dick Punchard the seventh in 3/84. I have pressings on file of all seven examples.

60 JDWright (recognized 1/82)
50 JRGrellman 4/82-RVPunchard 7/82
30 JDWright 6/82
20 JDWright 5/82-JLCorrado
20 RVPunchard 3/84-FHBorcherdt
12 JBenoit 12/82-WARasmussen
8 JDWright 6/83-TFMatthews 12/84

1838 #15
Obverse N12 early, crisp dentilation and flat fields.

Reverse N11=13 late, dentilation mushed out, legend weak.

Discovered by Walter Breen in 8/59, to Floyd Starr. Breen found a second one in the 1960's, to JSchreuder. One in an NN MBS in 9/67 was misattributed, and I have disproven others too. Del Bland turned up the third in 12/72, to me. I found the fourth in 6/74, the fifth in 9/74, Clint Hollins the sixth in 9/77, and I the seventh in 5/78. I now know of 16 pieces, have owned 8 of them, and have pressings of 12 of them.

55 WBreen 8/59-FStarr I:373-WARasmussen
45 WBreen-JSchreuder-DNBland-GFFitzgerald-RENaftzger
Reported as 60 with light obverse scratches.
35 JDWright 2/84
30 DNBland 12/72-JDWright
30 JDWright 6/74-RSBrown
30 JGFettinger 11/80 Detail XF but black, sandblast.
20 JAAnderson 3/81
15 CHollins 9/77-JHRobinson 4/82
15 JDWright 9/81-WAWeimer
15 JDWright 5/78-JEDillow-SAHodge
15 HCHamling 3/81-DWHolmes
15 ELKnee 1/82
12 JDWright 9/74-WCNoyes-EAC81:311-TSChalkley
12 CGoodridge 1983
8 JDWright 10/82-WARasmussen-RVPunchard 6/84
8 JRGrellman 4/81-JDWright-JLCorrado

1838 #16
Obverse N2 late, mushed out, heavily rusted at coronet and ear. lapped center, center of ear very shallow, die flowlined.

Reverse N11=13 late, dentilation mushed out as on 1838 #15.

Discovered in my set 5/73 as "N13". Announced at the EAC meeting at ANA73 (Boston) and published somewhat later in PENNY-WISE. I discovered it was different while trying to work up an attribution guide ("Quick Finder") for 1838 cents -- had all of my 1838's plus all of Robbie Brown's (over 70 pieces combined), and my "no cud N13" did not match anything else. I turned up a second one in 6/73, saw a third one plated in a past Stack's catalogue shortly thereafter and began then what became an eleven year chase to track down that coin. That was the Forrest coin which I finally succeeded in acquiring in 3/84. In 1981 Jon Anderson turned up the only other one seen so far. I have pressings on file of all four of them.

60	ANA72:1474-JDWright	recognized 5/73
60	Forrest:705 (as N11)-Stack's 10/82:1702 (as N11, but withdrawn from the sale as lots 702/704 descriptions were switched)-Coin Galleries 2/84:1367-FHBorcherdt-JDWright	The background stories surrounding this coin at the 1982, 1984 sales are fascinating indeed.
25	JAAnderson 4/81	Above ONE is scratched "102835".
12	JDWright 6/73-RSBrown	Small deep gouge between *7,8, otherwise VF.

1839 #15
Obverse N11 early, crisp dentilation.

Reverse N13 late. cracked as always, die mushed out, left reverse indistinct.

Evidently discovered by Willard Blaisdell in the late 1950's. as he told me which dies were involved and Breen reported the obverse as "new". In the 1958-1972 period several of these appeared at auction, and every one of these pieces later turned out to be N13's. Lester Merkin noted that Helfenstein's two "#15's" didn't match and listed only the valid one in the Helfenstein sale. Other "false starts" included two sales by Kreisberg, one by Cohen, one by Kagin, one by Kosoff, and one by NN. But if Blaisdell discovered the variety, why didn't he have one? The earliest example not subsequently disproven is Helfenstein:193, and the one Jerry Bobbe turned up in 1972 was evidently the second. I now know of eleven examples and have pressings of ten of them.

(1839 N15 continued)

60- JABobbe 10/72-CDSmith-JABobbe-RENaftzger
Small spot on lower neck.
45 LHelfenstein:193-FStarr I:390-WARassmussen
Corros. spot covers *1, rough area *7-9.
40- JReiver (discovered 1980 in his set as 'N13')
3 sm nicks above N(E), dark spot below U.
20 JGFettinger 5/82 Sharper but dark, nicks at NIT, ONE.
20 SFischer 1/84-JHRobinson Clean brown, ding above D S.
15 JDWright 3/81
15 JDWright 4/81 (another)
15 LSWillins 4/82
10 DWHolmes 8/80
7 RVPunchard 3/83
5 RSBrown (Discovered by JDW in RSB's set as 'N14'. The coin grades 7/4, was bought years ago from WEJohnson, attributed as N14, which is not even close!)

The Next Layer Down

1818 N4 About 50 pieces known to me. Best is Tom Reynolds' coin, likely ex Byron Reed (VF35), 25 (JReiver), 20 (RSBrown), 20 (JRobinson), 20 (RENaftzger), 20 (JDWright).

1820 N14 Over 40 pieces known to me. The best ones are 65- (RENaftzger), 60+ (JJNicholas), 45 (RSBrown), 40 (JDWright), 35 (Newcomb-Starr), 30 (Warfld-Schwartz)

1822 N9 Over 40 pieces known to me. The best ones are 40 (WCBlaisdell-RENaftzger), 40 (GJWrubel-RENaftzger), 25 (ANS), 20 (GFFitzgerald-WVonHardenberg), 20 (DWHolmes), 20 (FHBorcherdt), 20 (FHB again).

1830 N10 Over 40 pieces known to me. At least 3 Proofs (LRogers, Smithsonian, FStarr), maybe up to five. Best non-proofs are 45 (JDWright), 35 (JDW again), 30 (TDMooring), 30 (GFFitzgerald-WVonHardenberg), 30 (PRalls), 20 (RENaftzger), 20 (CFHeck).

1831 N14 Over 50 pieces known to me. Bob Grellman recently found the stunningly best one. Best ones are 55+ (JRGrellman), 50 (GFFitzgerald), 40 (JReiver), 40 (TFMatthews), 35 (Starr-FHBorcherdt), 35 (ANS), 30 (at least five pieces).

1835 N4 Over 40 pieces known to me. Bur only ten of them have the cud over NITED (marked '*'). Best ones are 40+* (DuPont-Gaskill), 40* (FHBorcherdt), 35 (WCB-REN), 35* (ANS), 25 (JHRobinson), 20 (at least three pieces).

(Next Layer continued)

1835 N10 About 50pieces known to me. Only five of them have the cud over STA (best cud is VG10). Best ones are 50 (RENaftzger), 30 (RSBrown), 30 (Starr-WARasmussen), 25 (RENaftzger), 25 (CGoodridge), 20 (at least five).

1835 N11 Thirty-six pieces known to me, including ANS' Proof and REN's maybe Proof 55 (Del says no, I say ???). Best others are 40 (ANA49), 40(ANS, 2nd), 40 (GRamont), 30 (CEFunk), 30 (JDWright), 25 (FHBorcherdt), 25 (Starr-WARasmussen), 20 (at least three pieces).

1838 N14 Over 50 pieces known to me. Only six of them have the big cud (best cud is VF20). Best ones are 60 (JDWright), 55 (RSBrown), 55 (JReiver), 45 (SAHodge) 40 (EDJasper), 30 (JDWright-ANS), 30 (TPierce). I have owned 17 pieces, have discovered at least eight others in other collections, but have owned only one cud coin.

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MIDDLE DATE CENSUS - 1816-1839

In the January issue of P-W, I asked for all middle date collectors, and others who may have some middle date cents in their collections, to furnish me with a count of the cents they have, by date and Newcomb variety - e.g. 1818 N-1 R5. I only want to know about the cents that are R4 and above. I want to get an up-to-date count if possible. So far, I've gotten very FEW responses.

I BEG, PLEAD, and IMPLORE you collectors out there - please take 30 minutes and give me a count of your cents 1816 to 1839 which are R4 or above. If you know only the Newcomb numbers and not the R factor, just give me those numbers.

Those of you in the WHO'S GOT WHAT booklet by John Wright need not respond UNLESS you have some duplicates that I should have in the count. PLEASE, EACers - help me in this survey. Thank you for your help. My results will be printed in P-W at a later date.

John C. Morton
123 North Partin Drive
Niceville, FL 32578

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From MICHAEL G. CONNER, M.D.: "Like the majority of numismatists, I collect coins for the enjoyment and relaxation which they offer to me. Also, like most EAC members, I am of an intellectual turn of mind and find many rewards in the study of early copper. I for one, was very displeased after reading "Head of Copper, Feet of Clay" in the December, 1984 issue of PENNY-WISE. It seemed so unnecessary to assault the memory of a numismatic giant who can no longer defend himself. If, as Mr. Breen states, he was reluctant to openly disagree with Dr. Sheldon while he was alive, how can he now dare to darken the reputation of the doctor years after his death? Was Mr. Breen 'reluctant' or was he more 'afraid'? What skeletons are lurking in Mr. Breen's closet which may one day fill the pages of PENNY-WISE after his death? I hope that Mr. Breen ascertained that he himself did not dwell in a house of glass before he began to cast stones.

The last two issues of PENNY-WISE (Nov. 1984 and Jan. 1985) have contained articles questioning another individual's character and integrity, both on a personal and a numismatic level. I hope that future issues will once again be devoted to the pursuit of coppers. We all get enough of the jungle and the rat race every day of our lives. Let us keep both of them out of our coin cabinets."

From ROBERT F. LOMPREY: "I was invited to give a talk on our large cents to the local coin club on January 9. The talk was well received if the numerous questions are any indication, and I am still receiving them. The attendance was around 30 numismatists, which is not bad considering the size of our town. The newspaper publicity even drew a few from out-of-town. The talk seemed to spark an interest in half-a-dozen or so who indicated that they might like to join our organization, and I will do anything further to assist them in doing so.

At that time, I was unaware that Jules Reiver's MATURE HEAD U.S. COPPER CENTS 1843-1857 was no longer available. This was told to me a bit later by Tom Reynolds, and a telephone call to Jules confirmed this. He did tell me that he is working on a new and larger edition, but this might take a bit of time in coming. Said he was side-tracked with his work on the Half Dime series, but he is now getting back to the late date large cents. I do not know if John Wright's QUICK FINDERS is still obtainable - perhaps you can fill me in on that. My point here is that I suggested these books to others, and have an outline for another article, 'From One Beginner.....' which I hope will suggest a different approach to type attributing. This, too, will suggest both Wright's book and Reiver's as excellent references, along with Newcomb, but not much sense in going further with the article until the two books are again in print.

The last time I wrote you was relative to my obtaining my second 1853 N-23 variety. You were kind enough to publish my letter which more or less indirectly led me to seeing a dream realized. Yes, I finally received that needed 1853 N-31 - it's not in the highest grade - but it is an N-31 notwithstanding, which might bear telling about. When first I heard that it was Jack H. Robinson who had won the bid on that variety from the Starr I sale, I phoned him and offered by congratulations. Then in November, I made another call to Jack regarding a subscription to his COR; and the first thing after hearing my name, he said 'Bob, I've got something to warm the cockles of your heart.' My first thought and reply was 'It couldn't be?', but he further pumped the bellows on the glow. He was interested in my duplicate N-23 and would I be willing to make a trade

plus cash. You can bet that I was interested, and after several more calls and a few letters the 'prize' was obtained on December 14 - Merry Christmas!!

Incidentally, following my talk to the coin club, I was invited back to give a demonstration on foil pressings. My display of all 33 varieties of the 1853 large cent varieties really piqued their interest."

From ROD BURRESS: "As always, I enjoyed the latest issue of PENNY-WISE. I also receive many short but enthusiastic comments from newer members as they renew their dues for their second year, expressing amazement at the publications and benefits which they receive from EAC for only $12. per year."

From CHUCK FUNK: "I have decided to dispose of all (and that means every one!) of my large cent collection. I had already quietly disposed of my early dates and my late dates a couple of years ago, keeping only my middle dates which I then converted to an emphasis on die failure progression. However, I was finding fewer and fewer new entries these days. The reason for my liquidating these then was two-fold: the first was that I was putting in a lot of travel time and costs in locating new or additional examples or occasionally upgrading a poorer example here or there, such as it was now more an exercise in frustration than one of enjoyment. In fact, as had many of the EACers with whom I came in contact from time to time, I had already converted my active collecting mostly to medals and tokens of Connecticut.

The second reason is that the years keep passing on, and I realize that one of these days it's going to fall on my estate to liquidate whatever I leave behind. It is my considered opinion that the estate will be able to handle the Connecticut collection more comfortably than it would the die states of U.S. coppers. Anyway, the decision was made, and the EAC sale this year will contain about 500 pieces coming from the Chuck Funk middle date cent collection - or about twice as many coins as would be required merely to represent the dates of the series. I hope that other earnest die-state collectors will be able to augment their present collections advantageously. It's been fun, and I warmly thank those many members of EAC who have helped me to build the collection to its present form.

There's an additional small group of coins that I'm also putting in the sale - definitely on the lighter side. This is my 'type set' of 1815 cents which is made up of 5 altered date specimens and one uniface slug stating that 'none were made in 1815'. Someone who appreciates oddities may well get a kick out of these - and maybe take one, two, or the whole set home with him as a conversation piece!

I do have one sad note regarding my middle dates, and it upsets me greatly to have to report it. This has to do with my set of 1831 N-11's and 12's. This set includes one of the most dramatic progressions of the whole set of middle dates - possibly the whole of U.S. cents - and it now seems that it won't make the sale because I can't find the coins! They have just mysteriously disappeared, and I've searched high and low to try to find them. The last time that I can be positively certain about them is that I did take the set to the EAC meeting in New York at La Guardia Airport to 'show and tell'. All I can say is that if maybe some EACer somewhere can throw any light on a possible recovery of this group of coins, I'd certainly like to hear from him/her. Meanwhile, of course, if they should turn up and it's not then too late, I will ask Bill Noyes to add them to the catalogue. If they turn up later than that, I'll probably hold them over until next year's sale. My fingers are crossed!!"

From Harry J. Rescigno: "Hats off to Roy Bonjour for his article, 'Keep the Faith, Jeff Rock'. It is true that we Colonial buffs are a small, sometimes silent group within EAC (Roy failed to mention, however, that we are the most intelligent segment of EAC and the best looking). But PENNY-WISE is an excellent forum for one to say what's on his mind about Colonials. So I wish to impress upon Jeff, Roger, Bob, Gary, Scott, and all of the other Colonial collectors out there to man your pans and to put your ideas into print. My experience has been that one's ideas are always well received."

From ROBERT F. LOMPREY: "I might call this the happy ending that wasn't. Earlier this year, I wrote you about finally obtaining my much sought after 1853 N-31 which completed my variety collection for that year. Indeed, I was on Cloud Nine. Unhappily, the cloud dissipated and I was deposited ungently in the nether regions.

I had had my doubts as to the attribution since first receiving it, so to lay the matter to rest I mailed it off to Jules Reiver for either confirmation or otherwise. Yesterday, Jules' reply along with the large cent was received and he informed me that my attributing it as N-3 was the correct identification. Strangely enough, I felt more relief than disappointment; but when something continues to bug a person, at the risk of infection it is better to scratch than to keep stumbling into swarms of question marks and doubts.

My search must continue. 'There is no joy in Mudville'. Nope, the mighty Casey has not struck out again - I have. Somewhere the sun is shining - on an 1853 N-31, I hope."

JOHN HOYLER has added another Penny-Wise to the Editor's ever-growing collection. This one is an advertisement in NUMISMATIC SCRAPBOOK Magazine for May, 1958, placed by PENNY WISE COIN SHOP of Dayton, Ohio. An oldie and a goodie! Thanks, John, for your eagle eye!!

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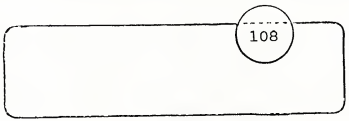

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When you notice that your dues are coming due or if you expect to be away at billing time, advance payment can be made. There is no penalty if your dues payment arrives early - your membership will be extended from the actual expiration date. Current renewals are $12. per year for 3rd Class mailing, $20. per year for 1st Class mailing. Your voluntary early payment helps reduce EAC expenses and eases the administration time of your officers.

Make checks payable to Early American Coppers, Inc. and mail to Rod Burress at EAC, P. O. Box 15782, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215.

SWAPS & SALES

EACers are invited to submit their ads for inclusion in this column. The first 12 lines are free. This includes any lines used for spacing. If your ad exceeds 12 lines, the treasurer will bill you for your entire ad, based on a pro-rated scale. A full-page advertisement is $60. Deadline for copy to appear in the May issue is April 30, 1985. Copy must be sent to Warren A. Lapp, 6505 Newmarket Way, Raleigh, NC 27609.

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BILL WATSON 1699 Moravian Street Columbus, Ohio 43220

Very rare 1778-79 Rhode Island Ship Medal VF+. Coin has a hole at 12 o'clock. Highest bid gets it.

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1794	S-22	5/1	R1	Chocolate with smooth surfaces, weak rev.	$80.
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	S-51	4/2	R5-	Tan, basically sm. surfaces, a very scarce variety	115.
	S-63	AG3	R3	Just lots of wear!	70.
1855	N-5	VF35	R1	Tan, with choice surfaces	35.
1856	N-1	VF35	R1	Tan, with choice surfaces	35.

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SAL ZAMBUTO P.O. Box 37, Ozone Park Station Jamaica, NY 11417

Have 8 copies available of VERMONT OBSOLETE NOTES AND SCRIP by Mayre Burns Coulton. Issued 1972. Hard cover. 151 pages. $12.75 each, postpaid

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1794 C-1A F-15 smooth brown surfaces $575.
1828 C-3 AU-55 lustrous 125.
1833 C-1 AU-55 w/die crack 125.
1835 C-1 AU-50 reddish brn. 110.
1855 C-1 BU-60 sharp strike 225.

LARGE CENTS

1794 S-44 VF-20 smooth brown w/3 sm.rim bumps $275.
1795 S-75 VG-10 let.edge 325.
1796 S-87 VF-20 smooth brown surfaces. CHOICE 650.
1797 S-135 VG-10 R-4- 195.
1798 S-166 VF-30 w/die crack, couple spots 275.

FREE PRICE LIST: Send name and address to receive current price list.

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JON HANSON P.O. Box 5499 Beverly Hills, CA 90210 (213) 396-2736

FOR SALE: - famous cotton-lined envelopes, the finest storage available for your valuable coins.
Send a S.A.S.E. for a sample.
$80. per 1,000, postpaid - $13. per 100, postpaid.
California residents please include sales tax.

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C. F. GORDON, JR., EAC 21 1140 S. Waterview Drive Inverness, FL 32650

1802 S-233 3/3 R4 $15.
S-235 G R4 20.
S-241 Fr with break 10.
1803 S-258 VG8 dig in field 15.
1803 S-255 G $18.
1807 3/4 smooth 9.
1807/6 S-723 G4 25.
1812 G 22.

My friend, Fred Andrews, asked me to sell his first issues of P-W - 1967-70 complete, plus 1971 with 1 issue missing. $70.

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JIM CASSIDY Box 684 Largo, Florida 33540

1795 S-76B Fair-VG fine porosity $230.00
1802 S-231 Fair 9.50
1809 S-280 Fair, pitted 20.00
1816 N-8 Very Good, dark 10.50
1817 N-10 VG, cleaned, dark fields 9.50
1818 N-10 Abt. Good 4.50
1819 N-6 G-VG, bumps 6.30
1820 N-13 Abt. Fine, rough surface 9.50
1824 N-2 Good 8.50
1827 N-4 G-VG, rough surfaces 6.30
1828 N-10 Good + $ 7.50
1831 N-6 AG, date weak 4.00
1832 N-1 AG-G, pits * 4 4.50
1834 N-2 VF, cleaned, porous 12.00
1836 N-1 Fine, dark, porous 7.35
1837 N-5 VG, soft detail, scr. 7.75
1837 N-9 G, VG-rim bumps 6.00
1838 N-1 VG, Fine-bent 6.30
1838 N-6 G-VG, rough fields 6.25
Please include $2.00 postage, thanks.

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TOM REYNOLDS P.O. Box 24529 Omaha, NE 68124 (402) 895-3065

1816 N9 R3+ F15 $38. Chocolate and smooth.
1817 N5 R3+ XF40 110. Chocolate and smooth. A few obverse pin scratches. Touch of verdigris above bun.
1819 N3 R3+ VF25 80. Chocolate and smooth. Small mark on chin.
1821 N1 R1+ F12 48. Brown and smooth. Small mark by lip.
1826/5 N8 R3+ VG7 22. Decent. Scarce.
1829 N8 R1+ VF25 55. Choice.

Send name and address to receive a free price list. See you in Chicago!

STEVE LINDSEY 1412 Beechwood Terrace #7 Manhattan, KS 66502

Wanted: Large Cent Literature, New or Used:

*Clapp, G.H.	THE UNITED STATES CENTS 104-1814
*Reiver, Jules	MATURE HEAD U.S. COPPER CENTS 1843-1857
*Wright, J.D.	ATTRIBUTION ARTICLES, 1816-1839
*Newcomb, H.R.	UNITED STATES COPPER CENTS 1816-1857

**PENNY-WISE - 1967 through 1983

or any other large cent references which you might have for sale.

SEND: List, Condition, and Price.

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DICK PUNCHARD 8600 Queen Avenue So. Minneapolis, MN 55431 (612) 888-1079

FOR SALE: Large Cents ex F. Starr II (sealed)

1846	N-3	VF30	Lot 1827	$35.
1847	N-36	VF20	Lot 1845	30.
1856	N-13	VF35	Lot 1960	35.
	N-20	VF30	Lot 1960	30.

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PAT CUNNINGHAM 2500-A Skyland Drive Atlanta, GA 30319

WANTED TO BUY: 1801 S-219 Three errors in AG or better and relatively problem-free. Date and three errors must show. Paying $20. each. These are for my collection and not for re-sale. Write or ship.

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LARRY KNEE 1321 - 31st Avenue Greeley, Colo. 80631

This collector would like to work out a trade on his S-20 in G6 (obverse better, reverse worse) for your S-18b in VG. If you are interested, see me at the EAC convention in Chicago.

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JOEL W. SPINGARN Box 112 N. Baldwin, NY 11510 (516) 623-7810

FOR SALE:

C-3	half cent	G6	small init. on rev.	$950.	S-220	G4	granular	$25.
S-23	VF25		porous, obv.fld.smoothed	650.	S-221	VG7	few mks.&scrs.	55.
S-25	AG3		sm.hole started on obv.	65.	S-227	G4	dull	20.
S-78	AG3			50.	S-233	VG7	granular & dull	30.
S-127	XF40		severe rim damage	150.	S-236	G5	granular	18.
S-141	G4		obverse pits	80.	S-239	VG7	few marks	35.
S-163	VG8		small pits obverse	70.	S-241	G4		20.
S-170	VG8		obverse scratches	95.	S-243	G5		35.
S-184	VG8		rough surfaces	20.	S-247	G5		20.
S-196	AG3			15.	S-250	VG7	granular	30.
S-215	G6		numerous marks	150.	S-294	VG7		32.

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JOHN C. HOYLER 4005 Small Boat Court Louisville, KY 40229

WANTED: Your duplicate Draped Bust large cents and half cents, good +. Have middle and late date cents to trade, or will trade other high grade type coins (e.g. 1835 25 cent piece in AU50+).

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DOUG BIRD Box 608 Hermosa Beach, CA 90254 (213) 374-4546

HALF CENTS:

1804	G-4	MS60	$820.	1804	G-7	MS60+ Spike		$1,250.
1806	G-3	AU55	620.	1806	G-3	MS60+/63 (R&B)		1,050.
1854	G-1	MS60+	375.	1857	G-1	MS60+/63 (R&B)		375.

LARGE CENTS:

1798/7	S-152	F12	275.	1805	S-267	VF25		250.
1806	S-270	VF30	525.	1809	S-280	F12		150.
1853		MS60+ (R&B)	275.	1853		MS63	(R)	500.
1855	N-9	MS60+ Knob	425.	1857	N-4	MS63	(R&B)	675.

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BRUCE A. TUCKER Box 43624 Birmingham, AL 35243 (205) 967-6053

LARGE CENTS For Sale:

1822	N-2	EF45	R3	Nice color and surfaces	$140.
1849	N-11	VF20			10.
1853	N-33	MS60+	R2	Glossy brn. with near-defect-free surfaces	275.
1855	N-7	MS60+	R2	Excellent strike with much mint red present	290.

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A. M. KASTMAN P. O. Box 823 Rockledge, FL 32955

Large Cents For Sale:

1802	S-233	R3	F15	very fine granulation	$50.
1803	S-261	R3	F15	smooth, nice die break	70.
1808	S-279		F15	dark, fine granulation	60.
1809	S-280	R2	VG8	dark brown, smooth	80.
1810	S-282		G4	dark brown, smooth	20.
1811/10	S-286		VG8	smooth	75.
1813	S-292		G4	smooth	25.
1814	S-295		VG8	sharp strike, smooth, dark brown	40.

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DENIS W. LORING P.O. Box 363 New York, NY 10101 (212) 496-8647

A. <u>The Volkswagen group</u>:

1793	S-2	G4	$1,050.	full str.date	1797	S-134	G6	$75.
1796	S-82	G4	110.		1798	S-146	AG3	85.
	S-86	G6	200.			S-151	G6	110.
	S-103	G4	100.		1809	S-280	F12	150.
	S-111	G4	100.					

Also available: S-104, 141, 151, 190, 195, 201, 204, 214, 238, 1831 N-14. All are AG to VG, priced under $100. each. Please call or write.

B. <u>The Cadillac group</u>: All cents below except the 1803 S-260 are from my personal date set. They were selected for surface and color, and are exceptionally attractive.

1795	S-75	XF40	$1,750.		1806	S-270	XF40	$900.
	S-76	VF25+ thick pl., P.E., an unintentional transitional sub-variety, high R7	1,100.		1807/6	S-273	XF45	900.
					1810/9	S-281	VF35	500.
					1811	S-287	XF45+	1,500.
1800	S-191	VF30	600.		1813	S-292	AU50	1,500.
1803	S-260	AU55	1,200.		1814	S-295	MS60-	1,750.
1805	S-267	AU55+	1,750.					

C. <u>The Rolls Royces</u> - prices on request:

1799 S-189 VF25 Tied for CC6: 50-30-30-30-30-25 (4)

1803 S-264 VF20 Large date, small fraction. Tied for CC4: 35-30-25-20-20-20-12 (4).

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The following items were received after the deadline and are being added at the last moment:

LEO SHANE 1130 Woods Lane Warminster, PA 18974

Make me an offer in dollars or coins for one or more of the following:

Fugio copper K.3-D VG10 Bent and corroded
K.13-R G5
1788 Connecticut cent M 16.1-D F+ Some corrosion on obv.
1797 C-1a half cent Fr2
1803 S-263 large cent 4/3 1851 3-cent piece G-VG
1805 S-267 sl. rim bruise 12/8 1852 3-cent very slightly bent VG
1813 S-292 6/15 1820 25-cent piece 15/20

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JOHN F. BERGMAN 4223 Iroquois Avenue Lakewood, CA 90713

Numismatic literature mail bid sale catalog available on request. Over 800 lots of out-of-print books, auction catalogs and periodicals. The selection of 20th Century auction sales is extensive and includes sales by Bauer, Bluestone, Bolender, Bowers and Ruddy & Bowers and Merena (complete), the Chapmans, Elder, Kagin, Kelly, Kreisberg (nearly complete), Morgenthau, NASCA, New Netherlands, Numismatic Gallery/Kosoff (a long run of sales), Schulman, Stack's and many more. Books include An Arrangement of U.S. Copper Cents by Andrews (original), Frossards Monograph on U.S. Cents and Half Cents (original) and Lows Descriptive Catalogue of Hard Times Tokens, 1886, 1st edition. Periodicals include Empire Review (complete), Rare Coin Review (nearly complete) and the fixed price sale of the Dr. French large cents by Mehl. Sale to close Saturday April 27, 1985. Catalogs available early April.

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CHARLOTTE & DAVID GALE 2404 Berwyn Rd. Wilmington, DE 19810

MASSACHUSETTS COPPERS FOR SALE:

1787 ½¢, R.4-B, R5, VF-20, wk rev., ex-Steigerwalt (5/2/10), ex-Ryder $425.00
1788 ½¢, R.1-A, R6, VG-10, ex-Child's Collection (7/7/04), ex-Ryder 425.00
1787 1¢, R.2b-E, R6, VG-8, ex-Low (1/28/11), ex-Ryder 390.00
1787 1¢, R.2b-C, R5, VF-20, some lt por, ex-Mehl (1918), ex-Ryder 275.00
1788 1¢, R.11-F, R5, VG-8, ex-Zug (10/18/26), ex-Boyd 195.00

Request free catalog listing other state coppers, FTT's.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF REGIONAL EAC MEETING, NY-NJ SECTION

Robert Martin

On Saturday March 30, 1985, a meeting of EAC's NY-NJ section will be held at 1:00 P.M. at the Vista International Hotel in Lower Manhattan, in conjunction with the 29th Annual Metropolitan New York Numismatic Convention. Roy Bonjour will present a discussion on the Vermont copper coinage of 1785-1788.

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INFORMATION WANTED

I need any information which any members might have available on the 1688 James II Plantation Tokens (1/24 or ½ and reals). I have found only an old reference in the BRITISH NUMISMATIC JOURNAL which indicates that the coins were struck for Maryland and Lord Baltimore. I have read the RED BOOK and Bowers' AMERICAN COINAGE, of course, but there is little else that I have come across. I hope to do a 6-case display of James II collectibles at the ANA Convention in Baltimore on August 20-25. Your help would be appreciated.

John D. Pryor
18 Warren Common
Cockeysville, MD 21030

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